# THE JAPAN MAGAZINE

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MANAGER:
Bunji Miyazaki

EDITOR:
Dr. J. Ingram Bryan

9

## Contents for January 1920

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| DR. K. DOHI | Frontispiece | |
| THE LEPERS OF JAPAN | Dr. K. Dohi | 335 |
| ECONOMIC MENACE | Baron Kuki | 339 |
| NEZAME-NO-TOKO | N. Tachibana | 342 |
| A NEW FIBRE | K. Hoshino | 345 |
| THE POLITICAL SITUATION | J. Fujii | 348 |
| ROKUYEMON HASEKURA | K. Takayama | 351 |
| JAPAN'S FOOD SCARCITY | F. Miyamoto | 354 |
| FORESTRY IN JAPAN | S. Tsurumi | 356 |
| A JAPANESE GAME | S. Honda | 359 |
| JAPANESE TOYS | M. Kimura | 364 |
| JAPAN RED CROSS IN SIBERIA | | 366 |
| WHAT JAPAN DID IN THE MEDITERRANEAN | K. Kishi | 367 |
| AROUND THE HIBACHI: TALES OF OLD JAPAN | | 371 |
| MONTHLY RECORD OF EVENTS | (Oct. 25 to Nov. 25) | 374 |
| CURRENT JAPANESE THOUGHT: | | |
| 1. American Fleet | | |
| 2. China | | |
| 3. Siberia | | |
| 4. Social Condition | | |
| 5. Exchange of Students | | |
| 6. Baron Kondo's Experience | | |
| 7. Japan and America | | |
| 8. A Strange Suggestion | | |
| 9. Anti-Japanese Agitation | | |
| 10. Taireido | Dr. J. Ingram Bryan | 375 |

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DR. K. DOHI, PROFESSOR IN THE TOKYO IMPERIAL UNIVERSITY

Docteur Dohi, professeur a l'Université impe ial de Tokio

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1. SUSPENSION BRIDGE ON KISO RIVER
2. NEZAME-NO-TOKO
3. THE KISO VALLEY

1. Un pont suspendu sur le fleuve de Kiso
2. "Nesame-no-toko"
3. La vallé de Kiso

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JAPANESE TOYS FOR EXPORT
Exportation de Joue'ts

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THE JAPAN MAGAZINE

VOLUME TEN JANUARY, 1920 NUMBER NINE

# THE LEPERS OF JAPAN

By Dr. K. DOHI

(PROFESSOR OF DERMATOLOGY AND UROLOGY IN THE TOKYO IMPERIAL UNIVERSITY)

THERE are certain contageous diseases now almost universal that once were confined to comparatively small areas. Among the more serious of these are syphilis and leprosy. Until the close of the 15th century the former dread affliction was limited principally to sections of Central America; and as a sequel of the discovery of America the disease was brought into Europe where it spread widely. From Europe it was carried by Spanish and Portuguese navigators beyond the Cape of Good Hope to the Indian Sea and so found entrance to the Far east. The disease first appeared in China, however, in the eariy years of the 15th century and the first mention of it in Japan is in the year 1512.

The above remarks have to be reconciled with other historic facts in relation to leprosy. The disease is believed to have originated in Egypt, where it was prevalent from almost prehistoric times. It is recorded also among the diseases of Assyria and it is also mentioned in the Old Testament of the Bible. Thence it found its way into Greece and the Roman empire and so met with the importation of syphilis, a unknown disease from Central America in Europe. The ravages of leprosy were at their height mainly in the 12th and 13th centuries in Europe, when special hospitals had to be established for dealing with the malady, some for the poor and some for the rich, as well as hospitals for men and women. The San Lazaro railway station in Paris is on the ruin of a noted leper hospital. The disease made great headway in Germany too; and in the famous painting titled "St. Ellisabeth" by Holbein in the old Gallery at Munich, there are figures of the beggars distinctly marked by the macula of leprosy. Holbein was born in 1462 and died in 1525. One may infer from the appearance of lepers in his picture that the disease was common during his time. The first scientist to note this in the famous picture of Holbein was the famous Professor Virchow in 1861.

In Japan there is picture which may in the same way be taken as evidence of the prevalence of the dread disease among us from ancient times. In a volume comprising the life of the about Ippen Shonin there are illustrations to show how the famous priest was kind to the sick and afflicted, the illustrations being supposedly from the pencil of the distinguished artist Yoshimitsu of the Tosa school of painters about 1302–1307; and from these illustrations it is easy to infer that leprosy was included among the affections of those who sought aid from the great religious teacher. In the oldest medical books of Japan and China there is mention of the

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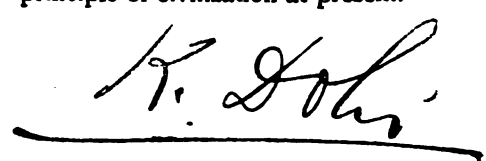
disease. One of the old Chinese books on pathology called Sûmen, written as long ago as the days of Hippocrates in Greece, there is a distinct reference to leprosy, saying that this affection causes the nose to bulge out and even to drop off, while the human skin all decays by ulceration. From these symptoms the diagnosis might be for syphilis, were it not characterised by the fact that there is paralysis of the sensibility which definitely points to leprosy. In another Chinese book of the 7th century, entitled "Ping-Jüan-hon-lun 505–609 p. chr.," that is, on the Causes and symptoms of Diseases, there is a statement in detail in regard to leprosy.

Signature

Thus it is clear that in the Middle Ages this terrible affliction was prevalent in most countries of the world, spread by infection. Since the 16th century, however, the rate of increase in cases of leprosy has greatly varies both in the East and in the West. In Europe the lepers were brought under limitation and control more strictly than in Japan. so that by the end of the 17th century the numerous leper institutions of that part of the world were turned into general hospitals for ordinary diseases. The St. Louis Hospital in Paris which is considered at present as the greatest hospital for skin diseases in the world is said to have been a leper asylum in the old days. One reason why the diesase was so quickly brought under control in Europe was that it came to be regarded as one of the most loathsome and dangerous of afflictions and the victims were strictly isolated, which is the surest way to restrict its ravages. The methods adopted were at times almost inhuman but the end seemed to justify the means. So much had the diease lessened that by the end of the 19th century the average physician was unable to diagnose the disease, having had no experience with lepers. When I visited Riga on the west coast of Russia some years ago I found a leper hospital there; and my Russian college, took me into the cathedral and pointed out a stone before the altar where lepers used to kneel in ancient times to hear the sentence of death read to them. Afterwards the victim was sent into isolation at the hospital out of the town until death relieved him. A samewhat analogous method prevails in most of the countries of the West even to-day: the leper must be completely isolated to await death. This is done in the name of humanity. An example of this rule is seen in the island of Molokai near Hawaii, where all lepers are isolated and not allowed freedom again unless they recover, which is very seldom if ever. This sacrifice of the few for the safety of the many is a well-understood principle of civilization at present.



Something may well be said here as to the varieties of leprosy. The tubercular form is now rare, while the anesthetic form, with few bacilli, is most common. In Japan during the recent years the diease has shown a tendency to decrease, the diminution of cases being illustrated by the following observation which was made by the any surgeous at the examinations for conscripts.

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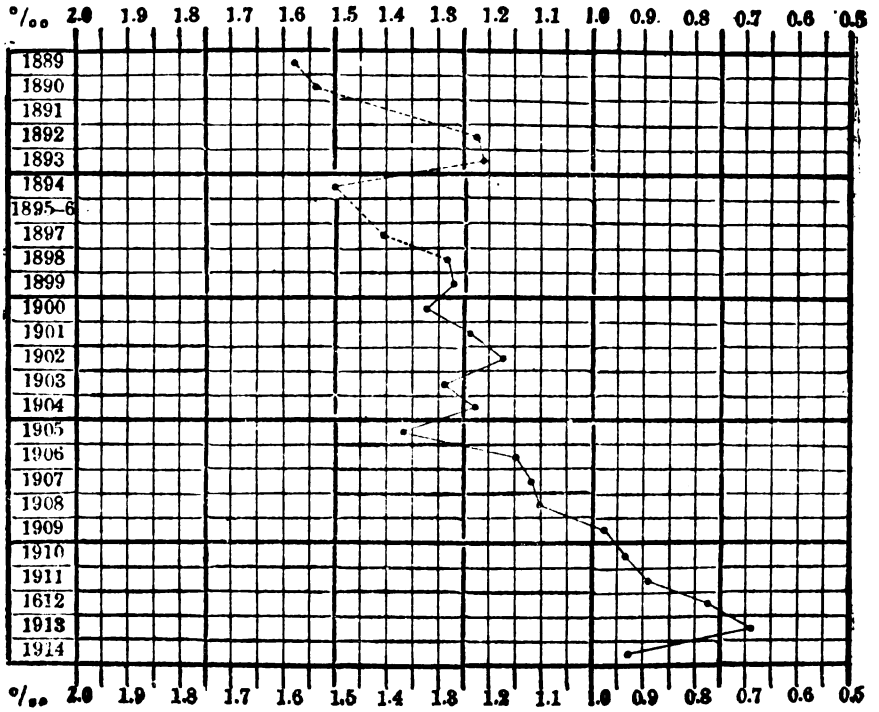
Number of cases under the recruits (‰)




(After Dr. H. Yamada)

At present there are five isolation asylums for lepers in our country, namely, at Tokyo, Osaka, Aomori, Shikoku and Kyushu, each of which receives cases in advanced condition including charity patients. In additon to the above there is a leper hospital run by the Roman Catholic Mission at Gotemba and another by Miss H. Riddell at Kumamoto, with a small leper home at Kusatsu, run by another English lady, Miss Leigh.

The history of leprosy in Japan is a long one and filled with numerous incidents of more than passing interest. As long ago as the 8th century the Empress Komyo established a hospital for lepers Hiden-In and took care of the victims, most of them being charity patients. It may be contended that this hospital was not intended for lepers but it seems to me that it was, or at least included them. The reason why lepers are still so numerous in Japan is that the Japanese are a very humane people and they have always hesitated to practise the pitiless isolation methods adopted in western countries, though possibly such kindness is in the end an unkindness, if it leads to extension of the disease.

As to treatment the method long used in our country has been the application of *taifushi* oil (Ol. gynocardiae or chaulmvogva), being an effective medicine long recommended by physicians, being mixed with other drugs and administered in the form of pills or so. For 300 years this was the main if not only remedy known, and was especially effective in tubercular leprosy, as was first stated by the present writer in a report written more than 30

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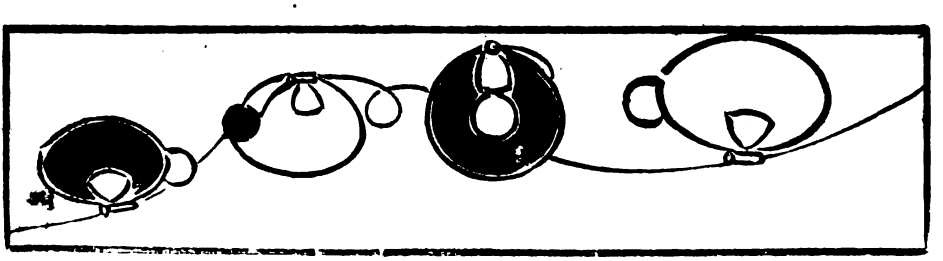
years ago. But this remedy was not found so effective for macular leprosy. The most effective application of the oil is by injection. By frequent injections the tubercles are absorbed and even disappear if not always This medicine was often studied by some scholars, especially by Dr. Inoko with the analytic method, but he could not fined any specific element, and Professor Shimoyama has manufactured remedy known as leprol similar to the medicine prescribed by Dr. Unna of Germany, but these were not redically different from the oil already mentioned. The medicine was used for injections and also taken internally in poweder form. While the patient is under this treatment, which occupies several years he must take care to live a healthy life, for instance he must be abstinent from alcohol and sexual intercourse. It is most important that the patient shall receive careful treatment during the earlier stages of the disease and strictly observe the hints given. There are other medicines highly recommended, such as Tetrodotoxin, Cyanocuprol etc., of which sometimes a marked effect is noticed by many physicians.

In modern times we are proceeding more and more towards serum treatment for leprosy. For the purpose of this treatment some ten grams of blood are extracted under aseptic manipulation from the veins of the patient, which is kept in cold storage for one day in order to separate the serum, and on the following day the latter is injected under the skin of the same patient. By this method it is noticed that often the macula will disappear and tubercles are absorbed. We have also experimented in various methods recommended by experts in other countries but have not decided anything yet as to their efficacy. In Japan as in other countries the disease has long been regarded as a punishment from Heaven for which there is no real cure.

The leper bacillus was first discovered by Dr. Hansen, a Norwegian, in 1879, by whom leprosy was proved to be a contageous disease, though the heredity not denied at all. But when cases occur in the same family they are believed to come from family contageon. Though great advances have since been made in knowledge of the disease, but culturing the bacillus have not yet been discovered. We must, therefore, await the success of bacilli cultivation before we can reach any assured remedy, Until that time shall we be satisfied with temporizing methods or shall we adopt wholesale isolation of the few to save the mass? There is no other way at present, for the purpose of exterminating the disease in some near future. The isolation method is the simpler and easier. The fact is proved by the statistics of Norway where cases have declined from above 3,000 to one or two hundreds during fifty years of the enforcement of isolation first proposed by Dr. Hausen and it promises now the real eradication of that evil.



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# ECONOMIC MENACE

By BARON T. KUKI

THE great war has been fought to a finish and the victorious nations are busy discussing problems of peace and the League of Nations for ensuring permanent respect to justice and humanity; but mankind does not yet appear to have learned the lesson of the bloody struggle, and we still have majorities trying to impose order and law on stubborn individualism, and boasted democracy taking advantage of the difficulties of living to spread radical and subversive principles in society, to the demoralization of industry and progress. Trouble prevails everywhere and uncertainty menaces the mind of the world. Japan too is gradually being affected by those evils, and, with the rest of the world, is trying to see how skill in chemistry and the almightiness of money and materialism can be safely substituted for the old steadfastness to duty, faithfulness and loyalty, while society generally runs to extremes of luxury and frivolity. Our statesmen are at their wit's end to find solutions for all the problems that face them, and, above all, to preserve our national spirit unimpaired.

The main virtues of old Japan were steadfastness of temper, faithfulness to trust, heroism, endurance and self-control. To expect a nation to thrive without these is like building a palace on the sands. No perfection of treaties concluded or wealth gained can take the place of hese essentials of nationality and manhood. No increase of knowledge and no predominance of talent can succeed without these old virtues. These are the foundation of national character, and to ignore them is to have the nation at the mercy of every wind that blows. True character is the only thing that can stand the test of the new age. It is a matter for serious apprehension that our leaders appear to be insufficiently concerned with these great matters, and are bent on artificial methods to tide over our difficulties.

Another danger to which we are exposed is the threat of the Alimghty Dollar. If money ever succeeds in conquering us and becoming our king, then goodbye to justice and true prosperity. Money can neither make peace nor keep it; money is the father of all warfare, the root of all evil. Money power is just as dangerous as militarism, and far more unscrupulous. The world thinks it has put an end to militarism; but has it put an end to the conquest of money? The war-decimated countries are wounded and financially exhausted, but the money king reigns. With scant regard to justice, humanity, or indeed any of the great principles, for which we pretended to fight, the money king like a colossus strides across the world and threatens to hold the nations by the throat. The aggressions of finance are far more penetrating and stealthy than those of the iron hand. Assuming the

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tone of philanthrophy and altruism merciless finance stalks up and down the needy lands until the people are in its grasp.

This indifference to the rights of others and profound regard for the dollar was conspicuously attested in the action of the American Senate recently, when other nations were set at naught, the Treaty of Peace thrown out and the League of Nations ignored, all by the influence of an arbitrary majority. There was apparently no hesitation for shame of such behaviour, nor insult to other nations, nor the peace of the world. International courtesy was thrown to the winds as a matter of no importance whatever. Is this due to the influence of principle or of gold? The root of it all is economic. The remarkable thing is that the newspapers of America do not approve of the action of the Senate. It is true, Senator Hitchcock supported the Treaty, as well as a number of other senators; and President Wilson has threatened to withdraw it unless the Senate abandons its policy of mutilation. He even insisted on trusting Japan in regard to the Shantung question, rebuking the violence and suspicion of the Senate. But, with the exception of a few men like Senator McCumber, the President's word had little or no effect and the destructive amendments were insisted upon. It was only too obvious that men like Senator Johnson were bent on their adverse policy just for the sake of discrediting and injuring the democratic party and the President, so as to help themselves at the approaching election. In any case their indifference toward the world responsibilities which the war thrust upon America was pitiable in the extreme and undoubted evidence of the danger now threatened by mony power.

How does the situation now stand? So long as the war went on and America had the opportunity of supplying immense quantities of munitions and food at high prices the representatives of capital said nothing. While the nation was expending vast sums of money on equipping some four million soldiers and preparing a great fleet the capitalist patriots were amenable. This display of money power in the presence of the world they rather relished, though it may also have brought them considerable profit. But it so surfeited their pride as to cause them now to despise not only Japan but all the other Powers. No one can read the overbearing utterances of Senator Lodge without being convinced of this overweening pride that has seized America because of the money display she has been able to make to overawe the world during the war. America now stands in a position of absolute independence and every opportunity must be taken rub the fact in without mercy or consideration. By thus insisting on the views of a few senators against the other nations of the world the United States may find itself excluded from the League of Nations; and yet it is a question whether the League of Nations can exist without America, as the latter well knows. To take advantage of the misfortune of others in this way is a trick of which money power alone would be guilty. But to undergo such great sacrifice for victory and then forego the real fruits of victory by menacing or ignoring one's duty in regard to establishing firmly the foundations of peace is something very difficulty to understand in the case of a Senate that is supposed to be sane.

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There is, therefore, nothing left but for the other nations to go on with the League of Nations and insist on its terms being observed in spite of America or any other Power attempting to belittle it or ignore it. It may be that America in time will see that error of her way and come to terms. We do not believe that the Senate really represents the American people at present. At any rate the Powers now have a chance to combine in a manner that may enable them to resist economic pressure, as never before. As the war approached its conclusion and the terms of peace began to be discussed all nations expressed themselves as ready to face any sacrifice or meet any compromise that might avert the repitition of such a catastrophe; and now when it comes to the test, the American Senate insists on its own views and is willing to yield nothing. The difficulty is that the Peace Treaty made no provision for the control of unprincipled finance. And so we are left at the mercy of the money kings. And the money kings are likely to misuse their powers just as Germany misused her skill in chemistry, to disturb the peace of mankind. As science becomes the prostituted tool of militarism, so money becomes the cruel tyrant of greed and avarice. As science must be rescued from the control of militarism by destroying the latter, so unprincipled finance must be brought under humane control by regulations for the investing of money. The capitalist will be found as great a menace to peace as the militarist unless he is placed under equal control by the nations of the world. Humanity must protect itself as much against capitalism as against militarism.

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Naga-naga to
Kawa hitosuji ya
Yuki-no-hara

---

A single river, stretching far
Across the moorland (swathed) in snow

By Basho

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# NEZAME-NO-TOKO

By N. TACHIBANA

THE Nezame-no-toko, in the mountains of Kiso, is regarded as among the most entrancing natural scenery in Japan. Though the region is not so extensive, the natural beauty is so intensive that all visitors are equally charmed by its alluring splendor. Yet, notwithstanding the grandeur of this view it is not well known to travelers whether native or foreign. This is because of its remoteness and consequent inconvenience of access, being situated out of the beaten track. But lovers of nature, once they find out scenes of great natural beauty, are not slow to frequent them and make the most of them; and thus the Nezame-no-toko is more or less familiar to some Japanese. Even foreigners are now found visiting the place, and the number increases year by year.

The center of this fine scenery is in the heart of the Kiso forest, the greatest forest in Japan proper, through which runs the Kiso river, in the province of Shinano. To get there the best way is to go first to Nagoya on the Tokaido railway, and there change for the Chuo line, alighting at Agematsu station, a small country place in the Kiso valley, near the foot of Mount Komagatake in the Japenese Alps. Proceeding to the right from the station for about twenty minutes one comes to a rest house along the river with a temple on the right a little further on, the Rinsenji. Behind this temple the traveler will come upon the scene known as Nezame-no-toko.

At this point the river Kiso expands and then narrows to rush between high cliffs, presenting a magnificent water scene. The deep blue of the rushing water in its matchless force and great depth leaves an impression of awe and sublimity on the mind. After passing the rocky walls the water forms a calm still lake over which reigns the peace of the surrounding forest. The powerful movement from struggle to peace and calm is very pleasing, and something that no artist could ever fully depict. Some scenes in nature impress the mind with characteristic acivity or violent motion; and others by their stillness or effeminate beauty; but this striking contrast of war and peace, struggle and rest, appeals to one as part of life itself. Though the surface seems calm and still, like a soul that has passed through death, probably down in its great depths there is still the tremor and shudder of the test experienced, but the inference of victory is inevitable. One just loves to sit in its presence and slowly absorb the beauty of it all. The conflict between the pliant and the unyeilding, and the scenery of giant granite and great water, fills one's mind with memories never to be forgotten. Thus for centuries unnumbered nature has been revealing her power and beauty in this place without reference to the eye or heart of man;

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and yet it must have been somehow intended that man should learn of it since it appeals so profoundly to his nature.

Here and there in the midst of the beautiful river rise great rocks like islands, washed clean of all life by the laving of the centuries, but one there is

that has accumulated enough soil to afford some pine trees that look very picturesque in their perilous isolation. Among the lovely pines can be seen a tiny shrine, for man has come thither to worship too, and the shrine bears appropriately the name of Urashima-do, after the sailor lad who went under the sea and married a fairy propincess. Tradition has it that Urashima-taro used to fish on this rock, and to prove the truth of the tale his fishing rod may still be seen as a treasure of the little shrine, its only one. It is the custom for visitors to carve their names on to shrine, and among the many names left there are some foreigners.

Should time permit, the visitor ought to proceed to this temple and gaze on the rock and water scenery of the place from this coign of vantage, as the view is matchless. By care one can safely make one's way down to the water's edge and see at close range the great rocks that keep the mighty waters in place, returning again to the precincts of the shrine. As the train passes quite close to the magic scenery it whistles and slows down a little for passengers to have a glimpse of the place, though, to see it as it really is, one must visit it on foot. As the visitor leaves the little temple after enjoying the beautiful sight he should not forget to leave a modest contribution, as this is the only way of maintaining the pretty shrine. When one thus comes to admire nature one need not be ashamed to pass on some tangible tribute to nature's God. Is not worship the proper attitude of mind in such scenery as this?

In all these lovely surroundings there is no hotel, no dwelling, nothing to mar the beauty of the scene, while the little temple but suggests the secret of the place. You cannot remain here over night unless you are content to sleep in the wood. Visitors from Nagoya should leave that city by the first train, bringing lunch with them. Time allows for a comfortable visit to the scenery and return to Nagoya before night. The time required from Nagoya to Agematsu station is about five hours, and a journey of ten hours may seem too much in one day; but no doubt one can find lodging at some of the nearner villages if necessary. To obtain a full view of the magnificent scenery of the Kiso valley one should really leave the train at Kisofukushima station, next to Agematsu station, as there is a town here, the largest town in the district, though there is no foreign hotel there. Foreigners, however, can be accommodated in a native inn. The mountain views at this place are very fine. At few places can one get so satisfactory an impression of real forest loveliness and grandeur. The beauty and awe of the vast wooded hills is sublime. The Tsutaya is the best hotel in the village. As for beauty and coolness in the hot summer months Karuizawa is

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nothing to this place. If hotel accommodation were more attractive there is no doubt this would become a popular summer resort.

A further interesting aspect of the scenery along the Kiso river is the number of suspension brigdes that cross it. The region is so rocky and precipitous that this is the only way that bridges can be constructed. These Kiso-no-kake-hashi, as they are called, always greatly interest those visiting the region for the first time. To the inhabitants, however, they are more for use than admiration, the people there being naturally utilitarian, as it takes some activity to make ends meet in this neighborhood. All the mountain region along the right bank of the Kiso river belongs to the Imperial Household, and the forest preserves there are sacred. For thousands of years great trees have grown there unmolested by the greed of man, and some of the giant cypresses are of great age. In these forest regions is the Ontakezan shrine, where all pilgrims offer prayers, and where many a miracle is alleged to have been wrought.

The inhabitants of the Kiso region are rather primitive but they are kindly and considerate to visitors, and their queer costumes are an endless wonder to strangers. Do not fail to see Nezame-no-toko.

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## NEW YEAR'S DAY

Ganjitsu ya
    Iye ni yuzuri no
Tachi hakan

'Tis New Year's day :—I'll gird me on
My sword, the heirloom of my house

By Basho
Tr. B. H. Chamberlain

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# A NEW FIBRE

By K. HOSHINO

JAPAN has discovered a new fibre to mix with cotton, which promises to cause a revolution in cheap fabrics in the Far East. It is a kind of sea grass known as sugamo, which, when properly treated and mixed with raw cotton, makes a thread strong and useful for cheapening the material, which is now so high in price.

The annual value of raw cotton imports to Japan is about 300,000,000 *yen*, with about 18,000,000 *yen* for ramie and 52,000,000 for wool; but if the mixing of raw cotton with sea grass proves a success, such large imports of raw cotton will not be necessary.

This sea grass flourishes plentifully about the shores of Japan, so that there will be no difficulty in obtaining a sufficient supply if it comes into general use among spinners. The botanical name of this grass is *phyllospadix scouleri*, or sugamo in Japanese, but in the different places where it grows different names are used by the Japanese, such as umisuge, ebino, ryuguno and so on. The quantity available is believed to be unlimited. It is an evergreen seaweed about an eighth of an inch to three feet in width, rather long and thick, sometimes extending to a length of sixteen feet, not unlike kelp. It grows luxuriantly about rocks facing the open sea. It is one the rare marine phanerogamae in Japanese waters and usually is found in water about four or five fathoms deep, at low water. When once it takes root on a rock it grows in abundance, branching out in all directions, and as the roots collect sand or other substance they form a soil on the rock to nourish the roots.

The blossom of the weed comes out at the side of the leaf near the root, usually in March or April, and the seed is ripe in September, the ripe pod resembling a lobster somewhat. The petal forms a somewhat flattened column or like a tooth. The plant grows best from spring to autumn; but owing to its great luxuriance it is difficult to collect during the spring and summer, and can best be harvested during the winter months; bu- as winter is rather cold it is more desirt able to harvest it in the autumn.

The use of this weed in cotton spinning has only just begun and is not on a very extensive scale as yet. It was first tried in making material for rough horse blankets, and was found so practicable that its use in other ways is now contemplated. The fishermen do not like the plant, as fish do not come where it is to be found; and bathers regard it with aversion, as sometimes people are drowned by becoming tangled up in it. During the last year two poets who went out for a swim together lost their lives in this way. In one of the recent novels published by Roka Tokutomi he mentions an accident he met with in this way on the coast at Kujiukuri, when he barely escaped with his life. Off the province of

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Tottori the authorities have expended thousands of yen in trying to clear it away from there but to no purpose, as so long as the roots are left it will grow again.

The use of sugamo in cotton spinning was first introduced by Yachiro Hashimoto and Katsushiro Kobayashi, and a patent was taken out for the use of it in 1918. The secret of the process is to know how to remove the outer casing of the weed, which was patented as above. Many persons have tried to use it and failed for want of this knowledge. The invention referred to enables the spinner to remove the outer skin completely without injury to the fibre. The process is somewhat as follows. The dried plant is first boiled in lye made from ashes and water, for about two hours and then is allowed to cool gradually. This weakens the skin so that it comes off without resistence when the material is washed in water and boiled again, bringing it just to the boiling point in water mixed with rice bran, for half an hour. The remaining fibre then looks like cotton fibre from which any remaining particles of the skin much be carefully removed. This is best done by rinsing freely in water. The patent already mentioned gives full particullars as to the process, which is successful in every way.

In regard to the method of removing the skin of the plant Mr. Hashimoto, the inventor of the above process, says that for many years people who knew of the great value of sugamo as a fibre, have been trying to find out a way to remove the outside from the fibre and they have always failed, he being the first one to succeed in finding a method. Some have thought that steam would be successful but this also proved ineffective. The simple way adopted by himself was completely successful, this being the way now used by all those using sugamo in spinning. Any sort of big pot will do very well for boiling the weed, such as the iodine pots used by fishermen. The work can be taken up by fishermen and done just as easily as by factories. No great amount of capital is required to start such enterprise. Nor is any special education or training necessary to success in the business. Even women and children can carry it on just as well as men. Some have tried another process in which sulphuric acid or bichromate is used, but this is not satisfactory besides being more expensive and too dangerous for untrained workers. The method used by Mr. Hashimoto is obviously the most desirable, since it is most successful and demands nothing more than is at the disposal of every housewife.

The preparation of this seaweed for use in spinning is a work that calls for no special time or pains. The weed can be harvested when convenient, and it does not spoil by waiting and drying. The plant can be gathered in the autumn and the spare days of winter used by the fishermen to carry on its preparation for spinning. The material is not liable to spoil and the fibre can be left waiting indefinitely. With such facilities for procuring and preparing the fibre the supply is inexhaustible in Japan, and if it comes into general use the effect on cheap clothing will be very important. Cotton mixed with this fibre is far stronger than thread made from raw cotton alone. Fishing nets made from material mixed with this fibre have been in the seawater for three months or more without showing any sign of being affected by the water, which is more than pure cotton twine can do.

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Nor is the appearance of the cloth made from this fibre at all objectionable, as it has peculiar gloss that is rather pleasing, and it takes dye well, which cotton does not do. It is also lighter than cotton ; while in the use of it there is not so much waste as there is in cotton. Japanese fishermen are taking up the business now, as it can be carried on as a side issue in connection with their ordinary occupation. The Oriental Textile Company is preparing to exploit this new fibre and is offering fishermen good prospects of special work by buying as much as they can produce. In the manufacture of summer clothes and pongee coloured shirtings the fibre will have an abundant use. Paper made from this fibre is strong and excellent for drawing. Mixed with pulp it makes an excellent foreign style paper. Capitalists are becoming interested in the possibilities of the fibre, and it is likely that in the near future it will prove quite an industry. Owing to rise in prices of raw cotton the subject becomes all the more interesting at present.

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## JAPANESE CHILDREN'S VERSE

Nono-san,
or
O-Tsuki-san
Ikutsu ?
" Jiu-san,—
Kokonotsu."
Sore wa mada
Wakai yo.
Wakai no mo
Dori
Akai iro no
Obi to
Shiroi iro no
Obi to
Koshi ni shanto
Musun de.
Uma ni Yaru ?
" Iyaiya ! "
Ushi ni yaru ?
" Iyaiya ! "

Nono-asn,
Little Lady Moon,
How old are you ?
" Thirteen days,—
Thirteen and nine."
That is still young,
And the reason must be
For that bright red obi,
So nicely tied,
And that nice white girdle
About your hips.
Will you give it to the horse ?
" Oh, no, no ! "
Will you give it to the cow ?
" Oh, no, no ! "

Anon

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# THE POLITICAL SITUATION

By J. FUJII

SINCE the increasing disatisfaction with the present cabinet on account of its failure to control profiteers and prices and its apparent indifference to popular opinion in regard to labour questions and foreign diplomacy, the question of its prolonged tenure of office continues to become one of persistent discussion; but it is a question that no one as yet ventures to answer with any degree of assurance. While it is true that the Government has revealed certain weaknesses, at the same time it cannot be denied that it has struck deeply at some of the evils of bureaucracy, though there are those who apprehend that the evils of bigoted and narrow party politics may even prove less patriotic than the selfishness of the bureaucrats.

The Hara cabinet has made certain important concessions to the democratic spirit, notably in the direction of extending the franchise, and the official recognition of certain rights of labour, to say nothing of its appointment of civil to replace military officials in colonial administration. It is safe to say that henceforth military officials will no longer be able to dominate colonial government in this country. The determination to encourage reclamation of uncultivated lands and increase the area for food production is another reform that must be placed to the credit of the present Government. Though the Cabinet gets credit for these reforms the outcry against it does not cease. This is probably due, as has been suggested, to its apparent indifference to the high cost of living and the abnormal inflation of currency, as well as to its alleged failures at the Peace Conference. Of course the Opposition party, the Kenseikai, is taking every advantage of these complaints to undermine the influence of the Government so as to replace it with a Kenseikai cabinet; and the approaching session of the Imperial Diet will doubtless see some strenuous party tactics in operation.

It is believed that the Opposition is preparing a motion of impeachment for the session of the Imperial Diet, based on the following grounds: that the Cabinet has not taken proper measures for the control of high prices and to check the inflation of curreney, but has allowed the cost of necessities to soar until many are brought to great distress; that the Government has persistently ignored the national demand for universal suffrage, which as a party cabinet it should promote; and of several other blunders of inconsistencies the Cabinet is accused. The cabinet denys responsibility for the situation, as high prices and inflated currency are phenomena of universal sway at present and cannot be put down as

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peculiar to Japan. The Government refuses thus to be held responsible for conditions that are universal. The authorities point out that although attempts were made abroad to control the situation by

By Hokusai

restricting currency and the raising of prices the results were quite ineffective, and a like result would ensue in Japan were similar measures adopted. The Minister of Finance, Baron Takahashi, has been so positive in his view on these matters that he has elicited the strongest public antipathy, and is bound to come in for severe criticism when the Diet convenes. That even the Minister of Finance, however, can be brought to listen is clear from the fact that already Baron Takahashi is beginning to move and has raised the rate of interest on loans by the Bank of Japan to restrict further inflation of currency. Restriction of certain exports, such as cotton, while duty on raw cotton, eggs and beans has been remitted for one year. The critics are not yet satisfied, however, asserting that the officials have delayed the reforms until too late to have any appreciable effect on the situation. Even some of the cabinet members themselves have admitted the ineffectiveness of the measures adopted by the Department of Finance, and this will be brought against the Government during the session of the Diet.

But has the Cabinet any very great fear of opposition in the Diet? The worst that can happen is a vote of non-confidence; and then the Government can dissolve the House and appeal to the country with certainty of being returned, for no cabinet has ever been defeated under the circumstances. This would only put the Opposition as well as the Government to the expense of another general election, which would be undesirable unless the Opposition felt assured of making great gains. The Cabinet might be defeated on a non-confidence motion or on the Budget, which this year is the largest in the nation's history; but the greatest danger always lies in the House of Peers, which at any time has the power to overthrow the Ministry. The House of Peers has warned the Cabinet once or twice during the past year to look to itself in regard to controlling the financial situation; and it may be that the Peers will deal the cabinet a death blow before the session of the Diet ends. The Kenkyukai party in the Upper House commands a majority in that department of the legislature, and as there are some members of the party very desirous of becoming ministers in the next cabinet they may be trusted to hurry on a change. Thus it is not impossible that the ambitious party among the Peers may join forces with the Opposition to overthrow the Hara Ministry. It would be a very simple matter; for all the Kenkyukai party has to do is to defeat the Budget in the House of Peers. Should they decide to undo the Cabinet it is probable that the House of Peers would recommend one of their number as the next premier, possibly Marquis Rairin Tokugawa and at the same time name him as president of the Kenkyukai party in the House of Peers. That would be a tremendous boost to their party. A

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dispute between the Kenkyukai Peers and the Cabinet is the greatest danger the Seiyukai party has to fear in the next few months.

It would not be all plain sailing for the Peers, however, for if a cabinet were to be constituted that owed allegiance to no particular political party, the public would be dissatisfied with it as a sign of reversion to bureaucratic politics and no cabinet could thus afford to defy public opinion. It is likely, therefore, that the Kenkyukai will be disposed to reach some sort of compromise with the Seiyukai party and organize a cabinet in collusion. Thus the Peers and the party in power might find some *modus operandi* for furthering mutual interests. The most difficult problem the Seiyukai will have to face is the demand for universal suffrage, as any indifference to this will excite universal indignation. But since the Kenseikai is not very enthusiastic in this direction the question is one both have to face. The president of the Kenseikai party is rather vague in regard to the subject of universal suffrage, though all the members of the party are not in agreement with him.

A new star on the political horizon has appeared in the person of Baron Shimpei Goto, just back from a long tour of Europe, and with him Mr. Yukio Ozaki, the distinguished political agitator; and these may exercise quite an unexpected influence on the situation.

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Samukereba
Nerarezu neneba
Nao samushi

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So cold I cannot sleep, and as
I cannot sleep, I'm colder still.

By Basho

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# ROKUEMON HASEKURA

(ROMANCE)

By K. TAKAYAMA

II

AT last the day arrived for Hasekura to set sail on his mission to Rome. It was on the 15th of September, 1613. On that day the wind sprang up and the waters of the Pacific looked very rough as Hasekura boarded the small sailing vessel that was to carry him into unknown seas. Late that evening the ship weiged anchor at Tsuki-no-ura in the province of Mutsu, and departed amid the farewells and good wishes of the little company left on the shore never expecting to see Hasekura again. Hasekura stood sadly on the deck looking back in silence on the little company as the ship receded from the shore; while the Spanish priest Father Louis Sotelo, stood to one side praying for the success of the voyage. In his dark ecclesiastical robes the priest looked quite strange to Hasekura. The gold cores on his breast shone brightly in the evening light as the priest gazed at the shore and whispered farewell.

Gradually the silent company on the shore become indistinct as Hasekura waved a last farewell and fainly caught signs of response from the dim figures on the beach. Little by little the trees and houses vanished and at last Hasekura lost sight of his beloved Japan. And so for many days and nights the little ship rode the towering waves of the limitless ocean on her way to Spain, speeding along with full sail spread. The first night on board passed somehow and next morning Hasekura enjoyed the glorious sunrise, as he did every morning during the voyage; while the brilliant moonlight nights he enjoyed scarcely less. The beautiful light on the waters by day and night was a new thing to the man who had never crossed the wide ocean. To fall asleep every night to the plash of the waves against the ship was another new experience he could never forget. Numerous sea birds he had never seen before whirled about the rigging and astonished as well as pleased him. Porpoises rolled about and great whales spouted in the distance, to his further amazement.

Hasekura, however, did not put in all his days at sea gazing over the waste of waters. He was determined to learn something of the country and people he was going to and to speak even their language. Every day he studied under the direction of the priest, who also did not fail to teach his pupil something of Christianity. The priest spoke in but broken Japanese, but Hasekura managed to make out the meaning of most of what he said. One day the priest remarked that Hasekura must have come from a distinguished family and had many interesting experiences in battle, and the priest would like to know what was the dearest desire to the Japanese soldier's heart. Hasekura replied that his was in no sense an illustrious family; it had been adopted by various feudal lords through several

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generations and was supported by a pension of 1,200 *koku* of rice annually. Hasekura had followed his feudal lord into battle during the attack on the castle of Miyazaki and did good service in the thick of the fight, and he had also some exploits in arms to his credit during the Kasai riots. On hearing this the priest with half-closed eyes simply, remarked that all men were children of the same Heavenly Father and it was not the Father's will that they should ever fight and kill one another. Then Hasekura said that the true desire of the Japanese soldier's heart was to display great valor. But the priest replied that it was best to obey the command of Jesus to love one's enemies; and he asked Hasekura if the wars and conflicts of nations had ever done themselves or any one any good. He said that the followers of Jesus were the men of real courage.

Hasekura Rokuyemon

As the days passed Father Sotelo also studied the Japanese language under the guidance of Hasekura. As the winter advanced the days became appreciably cooler, and the weather was not always pleasant. Often the ship was tossed like a chip on the giant billows, while her occupants reeled and tumbled about like men drunk. The great waves flooded the decks and even entered the cabinines, and often the felt as if the ship had fallen into a watery abyss. With Hasekura was a friend named Shokan Yokozawa, and they used to lie in their bunks all day during the high seas, unable to move hand or foot. They could not even converse, as the only reply to any remark was a groan. At times they despaired of ever seeing land again. They made up their minds to die game, and to descend to the bottom of the sea, if necessary, with a brave spirit after the manner of true *samurai*. In the presence of the priest they bore themselves as valiantly as possible lest the foreigner should gain a bad impression of Japanese spirit. Yokozawa remarked that even a child of God must display a certain amount of anxiety in such a storm as they were passing through; and Hasekura said that he was so disabled that he not even thought of the priest or his condition or some time. The timbers of the ship creaked and strained so that they thought the vessel might at any moment be broken up and all lost. Broken and shattered sails flapped like exploding bombs and the sailors worked with great difficulty to manage the ship. They were very anxious to know how the priest was enduring the storm. Yokozawa crept along the passage way to the priest's bunk to see how he did; and there the good man was sitting up and praying for all he was worth, though apparently none the worse for the gale. This seemed to reflect somewhat on the two Japanese and they determined that they

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should not giveway to the influence of the as they had been doing; but such courage is seldom lasting and they knew not what to do. It was no use to attempt gaining the deck, for there the waves were hurling the crew about like balls. It became necessary to ascend the rigging and cut away a rope, and none of the sailors could manage it. Even the captain was hurled to the deck as he tried it. This incited Hasekura to ambition and he succeeded it accomplishing the difficult and dangerous task, to the great admiration of the whole ship, which made up for all his seasickness. Father Sotelo especially praised Hasekura for his prowess.

Date Masamune

"Do not fear," said the priest. "God will bring us all safely to the haven where we would be."

"On, Padrê," shouted Hasekura, "I hope so truly, I'm sure!"

The sudden revelation of great courage and spirit on the part of Hasekura nerved the whole crew to action again and soon the ship wss in order and once more under control. Father Sotelo now remarked that he could see why the great daimyo, Masamuné Daté, had entrusted Hasekura with the mission to Rome, and said that perhaps through the efforts of the mission all the people of Japan might some day awake to the meaning of true religion. From that time onward there were only two men on the ship over whom the sea had no power; and they were Hasekura and Father Setelo. The priest used to say that if a man had full faith in God he would have no fear; and Hasekura used to try to show that he could have fearless courage merely because he was a Japanese. The priest used frequently to remind Hasekura that Jesus was the bravest of all men and died to save the world, and he said to faith in one's national spirit without faith in God was of none effect. Just then Yokozawa appeared on the scene and asked Hasekura how he felt; and he was about to utter a groan when he be ought him of the presence of the priest and was silent. Yokozawa nearly gave Hasekura away by asking why he was not groaning. But Hasekura remarked calmly that samurai honour and firm faith in God kept a man all right; while the priest pointed to the raging waves and said that even over these a firm faith had full power. The wind now lessened and the waves died down, and by midnight there was a great calm, to the joy and gratitude of the ship and her crew. Some days afterwards the cry of "Land! Land ahead!" as heard, and in a few hours hills and trees gradually revealed themselves to the glad eyes of the voyageurs, who were thankful to have reached *terra firma* once again.

(*To be Continued.*)

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# JAPAN'S FOOD SCARCITY

By F. MIYAMOTO

ON account of the difficulties arising in Europe and America with regard to food supplies, and the rice riots which occurred in this country the summer before last, the question of ample food supply has been occupying the attention of our people for some time, and is becoming a serious question in national politics. Food, of course, must be the paramount question for all nations; and in it are involved some important considerations, as, for instance, the sources of production, the relation between prices of labour and food prices, the importation of rice and so on. Last year the total value of our rice imports was over 100,000,000 *yen*.

The principal foods of Japan are rice, wheat, soya beans, sweet potatoes and ordinary potatoes, the annual value of which in this country amounts to about 2,600,000,000 *yen* at present. Of these the most essential, of course, is rice, the production of which last year was between 250,000,000 and 260,000,000 bushels; and yet we were obliged to spend about a hundred million *yen* on imports of the cereal. There is also a great shortage of wheat at present, and the annual imports are valued at some 10,000,000 *yen*, mostly from America and Australia. During the war, when foodstuffs were at a premium in the belligerent countries, wheat and flour were exported from Japan, but exports ceased after the resumption of peace, showing that it was no more than a temporary phenomenon.

The soya bean is our raw material from which such necessities as tofu, or bean curd, soy and a soup called miso, are made; and since the domestic production is insufficient imports of this bean are valued at about 10,000,000 *yen*, mostly from Manchuria. As to the two varieties of potatoes mentioned, a sufficient output is produced at present, but this may not continue, as consumption is fast extending as many are substituting these for other foods. The increasing quanties of starch produced in Japan also threaten to lead to greater potato consumption, and so to lesson food supplies from this source.

Such being the food situation at present, what of the future? This problem is now under carefull consideration. The vital question is with regard to rice, as this must for some time at least remain the principal food of the nation. That it should be so must be admitted to have no more substantial a fundation than prejudice against rival foods; but the prejudice on this subject in Japan is so ingrained that it is impossible to change it at present. As our population is increasing at the rate of nearly a million a year the value of 100,000,000 *yen* are necessary, the expansion of rice importe in future is a foregone conclusion. To be more definite, the present increase of population in Japan is about 14.17 per 1,000; and if this rate continues the present population of nearly 57,000,000 will reach 113,000,000 in the next fifty years and over 200,000,000 in a century. The demand for rice will, of course, proportionately increase, if not to a greater degree even; and the resent rice consnmption of about

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5 bushells person will swell to something more. It is obvious that since the war the per capital consumption of rice in Japan has increased by from two to three quarts.

The question as to whether the Japanese will ever prefer other food to rice is, as we have already soid, no one open to discnssion at present, not only for reasons given, but for other and even more potent reasons, principally in the direction of economy and convenience. Not only do the Japanese prefer rice to all other general food, but they like it even better than westerners like bread; and even if they substituted bread they could not find side dishes to eat with bread so cheaply as they can find such dishes to eat with rice. The chief side dishes to eat with rice are bean soup, hores radish, and pickles, none of which could be eaten with bread, which requires butter, jam or meat and fish, all of which are much more expensive in Japan than the side dishes for rice. Not only so, but from an agriculture point of view, rice can be raised in Japan more plentifully and successfully than other cereals, owing to the extent of paddy fields. These considerations militate very seriously against any possibility of substituting bread or other cereals for rice in this country. But if rice continues to be the staple food of Japan how is the yield to keep pace with consumption?

This important question is answered in various ways. It is believed that there is room for considerable extension of rice fields by land reclamation and the utilization of lands now used for other puroses or lying waste. The present acreage of paddyfields can be cultivated more intensively by further emploment of fertilizers, the imports of which even now amount in value to about 150,000,000 *yen* a year. By engaging in the cultivation of rice in a more intensive and scientific manner the annual crop could no doubt be much increased. As to further imports from abroad, the possibilities are always available, though foreign rice is not popular and is used only in case of necessity. An adjustment of the price of rice in connection with increased production might also be expected. During the years from 1912 to 1918 the price of rice ranged as follows: for five bushells, yen 20,76; 21,47; 14,21; 12,96; 13,82; 19,50; with 32,18 in 1918. For 1919 the average price per five bushels was about 37 *yen*. This enormous increase in price is due largely to under production. As foreign rice is not appreciated by the Japanese imports did not appear to have any appreciable effect on the price of the domestic product, which is always higher than imported rice.

The adjustment of the price of rice is a very difficult question in this country. It has occupied the minds of our best statesmen and financiers for a long time without any appearance of a solution. The life and death of cabinets depend on it and yet no progress has been made in reaching an answer to the questions. All that can be said is that the safest way to meet the difficulty is to increase rice production by adopting the methods already mentioned. It has been snggested that if no subsitute can be found for rice we might compromise by mixing rice with some other food, such as barley, or wheat or potatoes, the latter being the cheaper as the supply is usually ample. The deficiency of albumen in potatoes might be met by using beans as well, as these are plenfiful enough. The rice must thus be increased some 20 per cent. by mixing other food with it, and the imports of foreign rice might then be reduced.

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# FORESTRY IN JAPAN

By SAKIO TSURUMI
(CHIEF OF THE FORESTRY BUREAU)

THE demand for lumber in Japan increases at an enormous rate from year to year, especially that for house building, since all dwellings in this country are of wood. As the output of lumber does not keep pace with the amount required for house building the situation tends to become acute. The annual demand for forest products in Japan may be represented by the following figures:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Timber | 347,000,000 | cubic feet |
| Firewood | 842,000,000 | „ „ |
| Exports | 12,000,000 | „ „ |

From which it will be seen that the annual consumption is well over 1,200,000,000 cubic feet. For such purposes as house building, mine supports, bridges, pulp making, railway ties, packing cases, electric posts, ships, foot wear and numerous other things the demand for wood is simply enormous in this country. The average Japanese house requires about 800 cublic feet of lumber and the number of houses annually constructed is between 450,000 and 500,000 and always increasing, the rate of increase amounting to an annual consumption in lumber to the extent of 100,000,000 cubic feet.

A similar increase is seen in the timber required for mine supports. In the coal mines about ten cublic feet of timber is required for the output of every foot-ton of coal, and the increase of demand is equal to about 3,500,000 cubic feet annually. The increase during the last five years alone amounted to about five time that much. In 1907 the output of coal in foot-tons was 13,803,909; and in 1912 it was 19,638,755 foot-tons, and with this increase of 5,835,786 foot-tons the increase in cubic feet of timber required was 2,913.000. During the next five years the output was 26,361,460 foot-tons, and increase of 6,721,705 with an increase of 3,560,000 cubic feet in mine supports. But in the gold and copper mines a great deal of timber is also required, of which no account has been taken above.

To the making of pulp a vast quantity of timber is now devoted in Japan. In 1913 the output of pulp in this country amounted to only 76,081 tons; in 1917 it had risen to 169,039 tons, or an increase of 200 per cent. The amount of timber thus consumed in 1913 was 10,1325,000 cubic feet, while the amount consumed in 1917 was 23,192,000 cubic feet. A similar increase in the output of pulp has been noticeable in other pulp producing countries too. Sweden produces over a million tons of pulp annually; and Norway 700,000 tons; while the United States had an output of 3,271,000 tons in 1916, and Canada 1,525,000 tons in 1917. For railway ties and bridges also the demand is steadily in the increase, while forpacking cases the demand is unlimited.

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The demand for charcoal is constantly growing with the rapid increase of population and the general improvement in circumstances of living. Although coal, coke and electricity are coming gradually into use for domestic purposes they will not for a long time yet be able to supplant charcoal in our households, and it has numerous industrial uses as well, the latter showing an increase of 57 per cent in the last few years. In the carbide industry charcoal is indispensible. For protecting silkworms and drying cocoons too, much of this material is consumed by the farmers. If the population continues to increase at the rate of 800,000 a year there will be an increase of some 16,000,000 cubic feet in the timber required for making charcoal.

Of course the demand for firewood in Japan is immense, as almost every household uses it. The total amount of timber in view for this purpose is about 550,000,000,000 cubic feet; and the annual felling of trees amounts to about 8,500,000,000 cubic feet. In other words the consumption at present is about 80 per cent more than the supply in sight. The amount thus consumed in 1917 was some 18,666,794 cubic feet and the rate of feeling trees tends to increase more and more every year. The present forest area of Japan is about 70,000,000 square acres, or some 74 per cent of the total area of the country, including only valuable land; while about 16 per cent of the country requires afforestation; and it is very difficult for afforestation to keep pace with the felling of trees, owing to the high prices and the increasing demand for wood. In 1915 the percentage of afforestation to tree felling was 59; in 1916 it was 42, but in 1917 it was only 32 per cent, a great decrease. The above figures refer to public lands. If we look at the figures for private property the percentage of afforestation to felling was only 47 in 1915, 32 in 1919 and 23 in 1917. Of course there is a certain degree of natural afforestation but it cannot make up for the consumption going on. It is obvious that owners of private property in Japan do not pay much attention to the needs and interests of posterity. If the present tendency is not checked Japan will become an importer of timber in the years to come, which would be a great disgrace to a land so well adapted to afforestation. All countries now regard afforestation as one of the greatest means of conserving natural wealth.

The evil of neglecting afforestation was fully realized by England during the recent war when she had great difficulty in meeting her demand for timber, and had to devise special means at great expense to meet the emergency. Doubtless in furture the people of England will devote more careful attention to the matter of utilizing uncultivable lands in afforestation. There is no doubt that henceforth all countries must depend more and more on intensive afforestation than on natural forests for their supplies of timber. If Japan continues her present ruinous policy of consuming 70 per cent more than she plants out in forests it is not difficult to see the position she will be in as time goes on. We are in need of prompt and adequate reform in regard to forest economy, as well as in the matter of setting out new forests. If Japan does not become one of the great timber resources of the world it is only her own fault. Other reforms necessary are in reference to the uses of special woods, such as cedar and cypress, which should be reserved for special purposes and the

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public be compelled to use other woods for less important purposes.

Even now Japan has to import a considerable quantity of timber every year; the total value of such imports last year was 12,270,000 *yen*, mostly American pine for building purposes. A large amount of pencil wood was imported from China too, while from the south seas we imported precious woods for cabinet making.

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## Japanese Children's Verse

Nenneko-se
Nenneko
O-yama no
Usagi-no-ko,
Nazemata
O-mimi ga
Nagai yara?
Okkasan no
O-naka ni
Oru toki ni,
Biwa-no-ha,
Sasa-no-ha,
Tabeta sona;
Sore de
O-mimi ga
Nagai sona

Sleep, baby, sleep!
Why are the honorable
ears of the Child of
the Hare of the hono-
rable mountain so long?
'Tis cecause when he
dwelt within her honored
womb, his mamma ate the
leaves of the loquat,
the leaves of the bam-
boo-grass. That is
why his honorable ears
are so long

Anon

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# A JAPANESE GAME

By S. HONDA

THE Japanese are a people very fond of games, especially of indoor games; and among these one of them most amusing is Sugoroku or Backgammon. During the festive season at the New Year such a game is played most by every day families, and becomes a rival of the native card games in popularity, especially among the young. Consequently the New Year season is the busiest time for makers and dealers in Backgammon boards and the dice used in the game; and the only way one dealer has of pushing his goods above another is by inventing a new style or colour, or giving the instruments of the game some new distinction to allure the youthful eye.

Changes are introduced not only in the make and appearance of the board but in the rules of the game, so as to arouse special interest in the goods of one maker over another. The game of Backgammon has been played by people in Japan for centuries. It is supposed to have found its way to this country from India by way of China. At first it was not unlike the game as it is played in Europe, but it has in the course of time undergone considerable modifications and developments. The original board was marked by 12 lines running horizontally across it. Fifteen black and white pebbles were used for moving, in accordance with the dice shaken from a bamboo tube. The moves were made in accordance with the number showing on the face of the dice falling upwards. In this way the journey proceeded till the winner got home first.

Since the Tokugawa days the game has been more simplified. It came to be known thence as Bukkyo-sugoroku, or Buddhist Backgammon, and sometimes kan-i-sugoroku, or highrank backgammon, though there were some important difference in the ways in which the game was played. The game then came to be played on a large sheet of paper, marked in accordance with the original game board, only in the spaces were written the names of Buddhist heroes or saints. Obviously the changes were introduced with a view to interesting youth in religion, like the game of authors which is supposed to interest western youth in books. The various ranks of the Buddhist panteon are most complex and abstruse, almost an impossibility to the mind of the common man; and the game was an effort to assist memory in regard to the mysteries of Buddhism. Other forms of the game marked the playing sheet with ranks of military officers or officials so as to familiarize the people with these titles and degrees of rank in days when there were no books and newspapers to do so. From these changes the game went through various modifications until it came to be what is called picture-backgammon, as today.

The most popular form of the game in

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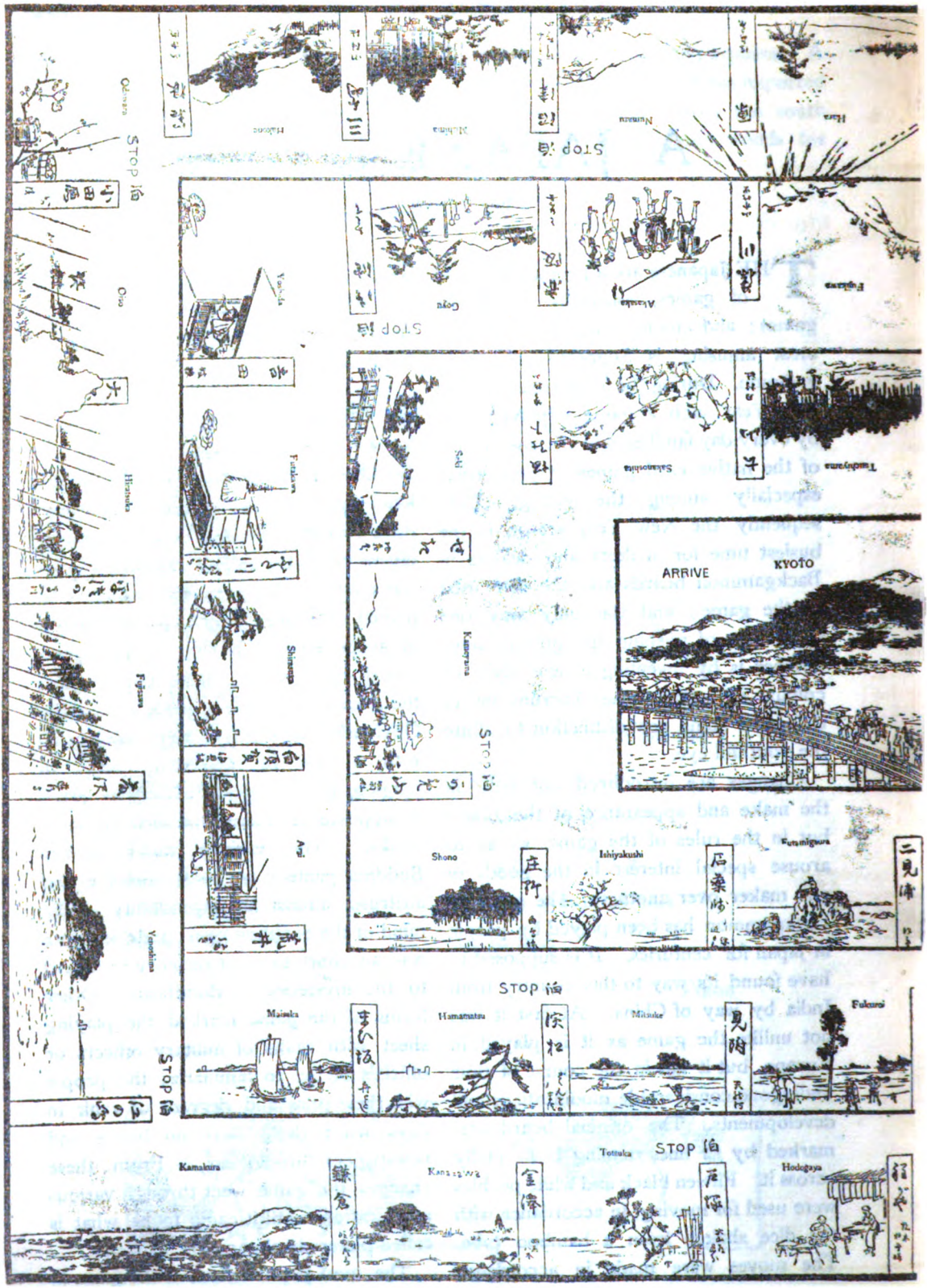


JAPANESE GAME OF "SUGOROKU," BY HIROSHIGE

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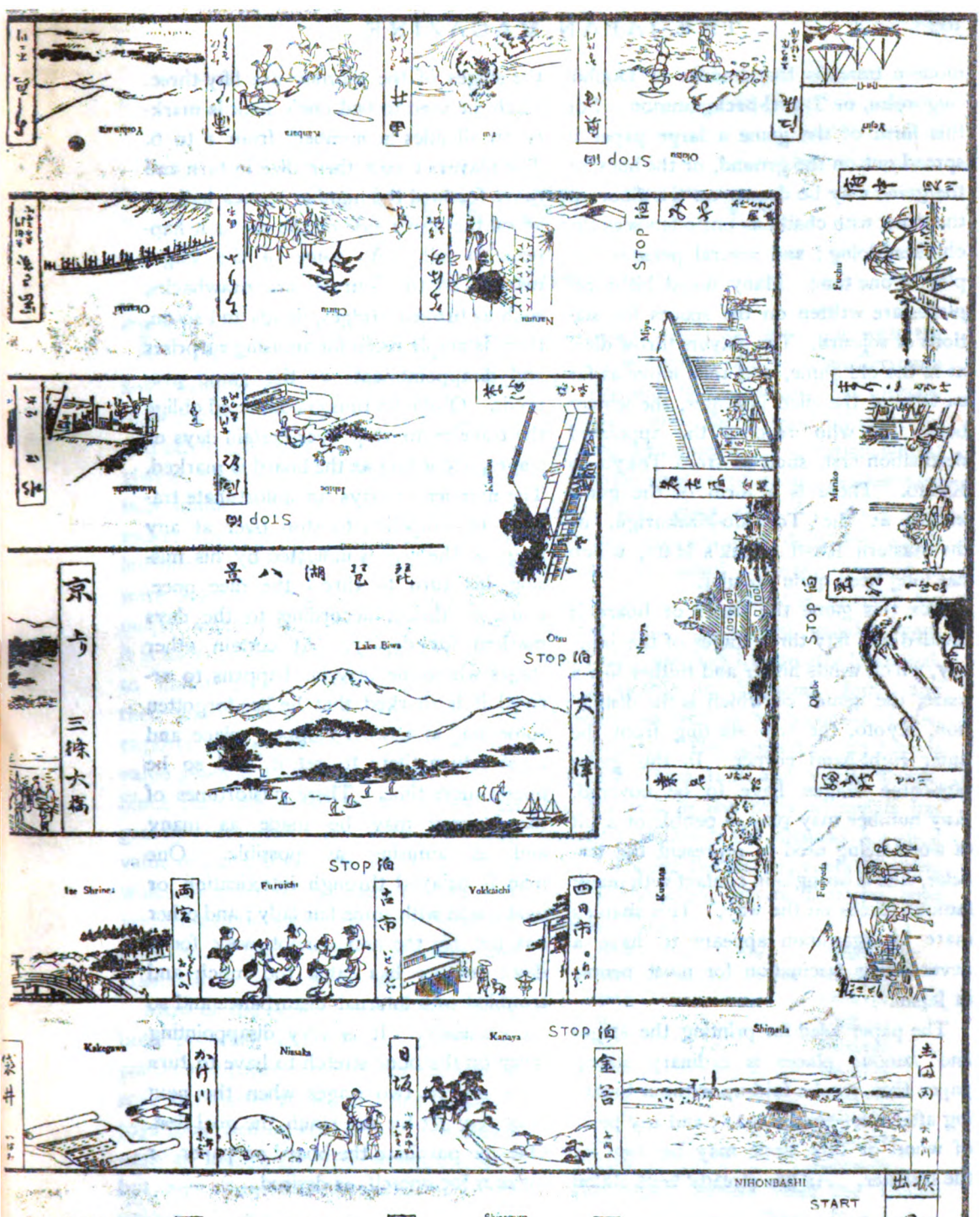


Le "Sougorokou," sorte du jeu de lapin, par Hiroshige

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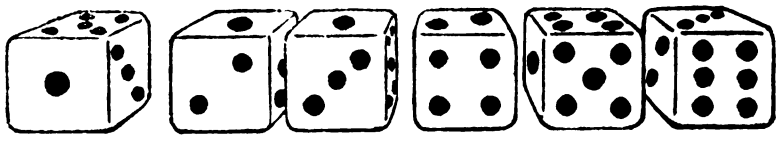
modern times is that known as Dochû-Sugoroku, or Travel-backgammon. For this form of the game a large paper is spread out on the ground, or the lines for the game may be drawn on the floor or the street with chalk, as one often sees the children doing; and several persons can play at one time. Many noted historical places are written on the spaces for stations of sojourn. The players throw dice, as in the old game, and then move as far as face of the dice indicates, the winner being he who reaches the appointed destination first, such as from Tokyo to Kyoto. There is a form of the game known as the Tokaido-hizakurigé, or the Eastern Road Shank's Mare, which has long been quite popular.

For this game the paper or board is divided into fifty-three stages of the journey, which winds hither and thither like a maze, the center of which is the distination, Kyoto, the trip starting from the outer right-hand corner. In this game fifty-three stages have to be covered. Any number may play, a pebble or a bit of wood being used to represent the traveler, who is brought in contact with many famous places on the way. This shank's mare backgammon appears to have a never-falling fascination for most people in Japan.

The paper used for printing the stages and famous places is ordinary strong paper that can be fold up without breaking after the game is over; and any piece of wood or tiny stone may be used for the traveler. As has already been stated the stages of the journey are fifty-three. Each die used to find one's luck is marked on all sides in numbers from 1 to 6. The players throw their dice in turn and move forward the number spaces indicated on the upper side of the die as it happens to fall. As some of the stages marked on the journey are drawbacks, such as broken bridges, floods and so on, there is ample room for amusing surprises and disappointments as the game proceeds. Obstacles thus encountered oblige the traveler to stop over certain days or stages, according as the board is marked. The number of days an unfortunate traveler is compelled to stop over at any stage on the way is indicated by his missing his turn to throw the dice once, twice or thrice, according to the days marked for deplay. At certain other stages where the traveler happens to arrived it is marked that he has forgotten something at another stopping place and must return there to get it, and so he misses more time. These misfortunes of the journey may be made as many and as amusing as possible. One man is delayed throngh intoxication or infatuation with some fair lady; and other has hut his toe and cannot walk for a day; another has eaten too much and troubled with internal disturbance and so on endlessly. It is very disappointing when on the hone stretch to have to turn back one or two stages when the next man may get by and reach the goal first. One can purchase the board or paper or make it for oneself, as desired.



Dice for Playing Sugoroku

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# JAPANESE TOYS

By M. KIMURA

TOYS were manufactured for centuries in Japan before there was any thought of exporting them. The main toy-making centers were at the spas and other places of holiday resort where visitors always wanted to buy trinkets to take home with them for presents. The makers usually displayed great skill and invention in making their goods, which were mostly of wood, though the entire output was trifling compared with what it is today. Japanese toys in time began to imitate foreign fashions and to find their way to western countries, the first exports taking place in 1896, when the value given in trade lists was 307,800 *yen*. Since then the exportation to toys has greatly increased. In 1897 the total value of our toy exports was 245,500 *yen* which by 1906 had increased to 1,036,151 *yen*, most of the exports going to England, America, China, India, Germany and Australia, in the order named.

Most of the exports consisted of toys, both porcelain and celluloid, as well as cotton and paper novelties for the Christmas and Easter trade. At first Japanese toys took well on account of their cheapness as compared with western goods, but now they are preferred for their unique designs and interesting conceptions. The quantity is always increasing and the quality steadily improving. In the year 1914 when the war broke out the value of the toys exported was about 2,590,000 *yen*; but with the decline in exports of toys from Germany the demand for Japanese toys greatly increased and there was difficulty in meeting the demand. The varieties most demanded were porcelain and earthenware dolls; also glass eyes for dolls, toy animals, and celluloid dolls for which there is but small domestic demand in this country. Of late the demand for leather-work toys, inlaid wooden toys, and paper novelties has greatly increased, going mostly to England, India and America, as well as to Australia, China and Canada. The demand for tin toys is largest in China, India and Asiatic Russia, but the rise in the price of metals has caused a decline in the demand for such toys. During the last ten years the value of the annual exports of Japanese toys was as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| 1909 ... ... ... ... ... | 979,978 *yen* |
| 1910 ... ... ... ... ... | 1,497,965 |
| 1911 ... ... ... ... ... | 1,889,151 |
| 1912 ... ... ... ... ... | 1,898,345 |
| 1913 ... ... ... ... ... | 2,459,792 |
| 1914 ... ... ... ... ... | 2,591,715 |
| 1915 ... ... ... ... ... | 4,533,486 |
| 1916 ... ... ... ... ... | 7,640,020 |
| 1917 ... ... ... ... ... | 8,409,518 |
| 1918 ... ... ... ... ... | 10,190,028 |

The largest buyers were the United States, Great Britain, China, East Indies, Australia and Germany, in the order named.

As to the variety of toys included in this list the more important were celluloid

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dolls, especially the large undressed kind, in the making of which the Japanese are now very export. In porcelain toys the chief ones were dolls, animals, tea sets and various utensils like ash trays, images and vases. Wooden and bamboo ware objects were also in demand, such as model Japanese houses, birds, animals, furniture, boxes, automobiles, trains and boats. In metal toys trumpets, guns, drums, boxes, ships, and trains were popular, most of them of the automatic spring type, while in cotton or cotton or cloth the chief toys were dolls, fish, birds and fruits. Among rubber toys were balls, dolls, birds, animals, with whistles or pistols.

The largest producing districts for toys are around Tokyo, Osaka, Kyoto and Aichi, though each of these has some toy specialty, Tokyo producing mainly celluloid, tin and rubber toys, with some output in wooden and cloth toys also; while Osaka is noted chiefly for cloth toys of various kinds, with some output in paper novelties and celluloid toys also. Kyoto is famous for its exquisite porcelain toys and earthenware as well as paper and glass toys. Aichi asoires to follow the Kyoto specialties, making cotton and wooden toys as well. At Kanazawa are produced box toys in wood, as well as turned wooden toys, while Shidzuoka makes many kinds of wooden toys. Other centers of smaller production are Hyogo, Hiroshima, Ehimé, Fukuoka, Toyama, Miyagi and Iwaté.

The manner of manufacture is not without interest, as conditions in Japan are so vastly different from those prevailing in other countries. In the early stages of toy manufacture in Japan most of the goods were made in the homes of the makers, and mostly as a hobby or a subsidiary occupation. There were very few factories. In recent years, however, much capital has been invested in the toy trade and factories have sprung up in the centers named, turning out toys in great quanties for export. There are at present over sixty jointstock toy manufacturing companies with plants running on an extended scale. As many of the toys produced in this country are very artistic and require careful hand work, however, the domestic manufacture of toys has not and cannot wholly cease,

In the making of dolls Kyoto is regarded as producing the most artistic, Tokyo coming next and Osaka next. In some

dolls the head only is celluloid, filled with cement or sawdust glued together, Osaka being noted for such goods; while the porcelain dolls with glass eyes come mostly from Kyoto. Dolls with paper bodies also come from Kyoto, while those with sawdust bodies come from Tokyo mostly. Kyoto also produces toys covered with leatherette as well as dolls with limbs of paper or earthenware, and hair of silk or imitation hair. The dolls are dressed in silk, cotton or woolen matterials, while the pigments are enamel or paint. Of course the heads, bodies and limbs of the dolls are all made separately. The power used for sewing the cotton bodies and limbs to be stuffed with paste or sawdust, and for kneading the clay for making bodies and so on, is electricity in most factories. The prices of the toy turned out range between 30 *sen* and 30 *yen*; and average good dolls sell for betwen 3 and 4 *yen* a dozen up to 15 *yen* a dozn

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for the best, excluding fancy dolls at 15,20 or 30 *yen* each.

In celluloid dolls the variety at first turned out was rather small and inferior in art, but now the best quality is made and has a large sale, the factories in Tokyo and Osaka being especially devoted to this kind of toy. The Nagamine Company and the Royal Company of Tokyo are among the best, while in Osaka the Koyama Company is important. Camphor being one of the leading

products of Japan the celluloid industry naturally flourishes here, and celluloid toys can be more cheaply produced in this country than abroad. The Japanese have for centuries been expert in the making of porcelain, and in the making of toys from this material our toy experts cannot be beaten. Great ingenuity is displayed both in the designing and producing of porcelain dolls, until the look quite natural and lifelike. For models the doll artists sometimes use an original or a picture; but many makers evolve the features and figure from their own consciousness, being real creators. After the model is complete a plaster cast is made, divided lengthwise and finally filled with clay.

In wooden toys such places as Hakone and Miyanoshita had long been famous for ingenious workmanship, chiefly inlaid wood and other artistic objects; but with the demand for wooden toys of all kinds this work has now extended to all centers and large qantities of every sort of wooden toys are turned out. Most of the wooden toys are made simply by foot lathe or by carpenter's tools.

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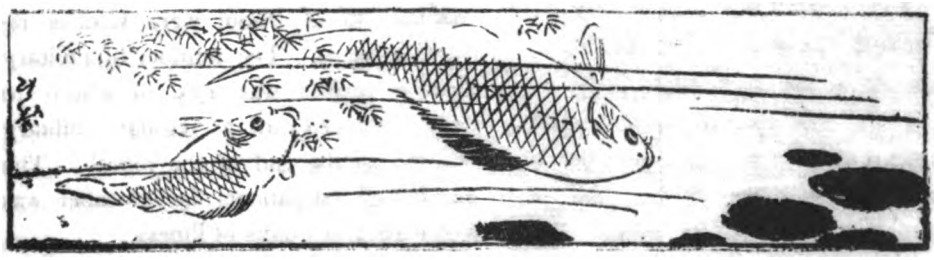
## WINTER

When falls the snow, lo! ev'ry herb and tree,
That in seclusion through the wintry hours
Long time had been held fast, breaks forth in flowr's
That ne'er in spring were known upon the lea.

By Tsurayuki



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# JAPAN RED CROSS IN SIBERIA

RECENTLY the Japan Red Cross Society brought home the Red Cross contingent in Siberia and replaced it by another one, consisting of physicians and nurses, the exchange taking place in December. A second and third contingent have also been despatched, with destination at Vladivostock.

Between the month of August and October last the work done by the Japan Red Cross contingent in Siberia was as follows. In August the number of in-patients treated was 164 foreigners and 58 Japanese, or 222 in all, the total days of sickness covered being 2,678 for all patients. The number of patients that left the Red Cross hospital fully recovered was 38, while 3 died, and to were removed, and 54 others were sent elsewhere, some of them being Czechs that were repatriated. At the end of October there were still 125 patients in the hospital. During Spetmeber the number of foreign patients was 99 old and 34 new, or 133 in all; and as for Japanese patients, there were 26 old and 19 new patients, or 45 in all, the total patients being 178 and the number of days of illness 3,442. The number of patients that completely recovered during the month was 49, while 5 died and 2 were removed and 18 left, leaving 104 in all at the hospital.

In addition the Red Cross contingent treated the following military patients. In August there were 58 old patients and 83 new ones, or a total of 141, the total days of illness numbering 2,025. Sixty soldiers left the hospital fully recovered, one died and 26 others left for various reasons, leaving 54 military patients at the end of the month. In September 50 new patients were received from the army, making 140 in all, and the total days of illness were 1,644. Thirty-seven patients completely recovered and two died, while ten others were removed for one reason or another, leaving 45 patients at the end of the month.

As to out-patients the figures were as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| August | 107 |
| Sick days | 574 |
| September | 88 |
| Sick days | 506 |

As to the nationality of patients there were in August and September 94 Koreans with 420 days illness; 14 Chinese with 46 days illness; 496 Russians with 2,065 days of sickness; 29 Serbians with 142 days of illness; 12 Czechs with 42 days of illness; while Poles, Indians and war prisoners numbered 24 with 109 days of illness.

During October the Red Cross hospital had 117 foreign patients and 36 Japanese, or 153 in all, with 2,645 total days of illness, 54 leaving after complete recovery, 3 dying and 42 others leaving for various reasons, 30 of whom were Czechs returning home. The number of military patients treated was 133, of whom 40 were removed to a regular military hospital by the end of the month. The number of out-patients for October was 836 with 3,315 days of illness.

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# WHAT JAPAN DID IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

By LIEUTENANT-COMMANDER KOICHI KISHI, I. J. N.

FROM April, 1917 until the conclusion of the general Armistice in November, 1911, the achievements of Japan's second special service fleet in coöperation with the naval forces of the Allies in the Mediterranean sea may be regarded as among the more important services rendered by the Navy during the recent great war. The services in the Mediterranean, as everybody knows, were among the most daring and hazardous devolving on the Allies, and the navy of Japan performed it with due credit to the nation and to the satisfaction of the Allies. The situation in the sphere of operations was highly disadvantageous to the Allies while correspondingly advantageous to the enemy. It was not only difficult to blockade the enemy's submarines in port, but it was easy for the enemy to take refuge in the deep waters of the Mediterranean. Lurking in narrow waterways they often made surprise attacks on our ships, while the number of Allied boats for defence was always sufficiently numerous to make effective resistance. Consequently the damage suffered by the Allies was unexpectedly great,

It is very difficult to, ascertain the position of submarines which keep under water; and the task of keeping watch over the enemy was one of the utmost danger. The only boats that were very useful against the enemy submarines were torpedo craft of high speed. The Japanese fleet arrived in the Mediterranean just at the time of Germany's unrestricted sea warfare, and the number of ships damaged was large day after day. The Japanese fleet was mainly concerned with protecting the ships of France and England, our destroyer flotilla taking charge of the transports, the responsibility of this work being very great, as transports are of great value and are the special objects of enemy attack. Wherefore the Japanese destroyers had many chances to meet and make combat with enemy submarines. After the German attacks on the French front increased in 1918 England began to transport large numbers of troops from Egypt to France, and the duty of protecting these was entrusted to our destroyer fleet. Another great army was thus safely transported from Egypt to the Balkans in October of the same year.

The Japanese fleet was fully aware of the seriousness of the responsibility thus laid upon its officers and men, as well as of the great dangers and difficulties of the task. With many thousands of men and great quantities of munitions depending on them for safety the minds of them for safety the minds of the men are on constant strain and ever on guard with no chance even to change their clothes day or night. There was indeed little

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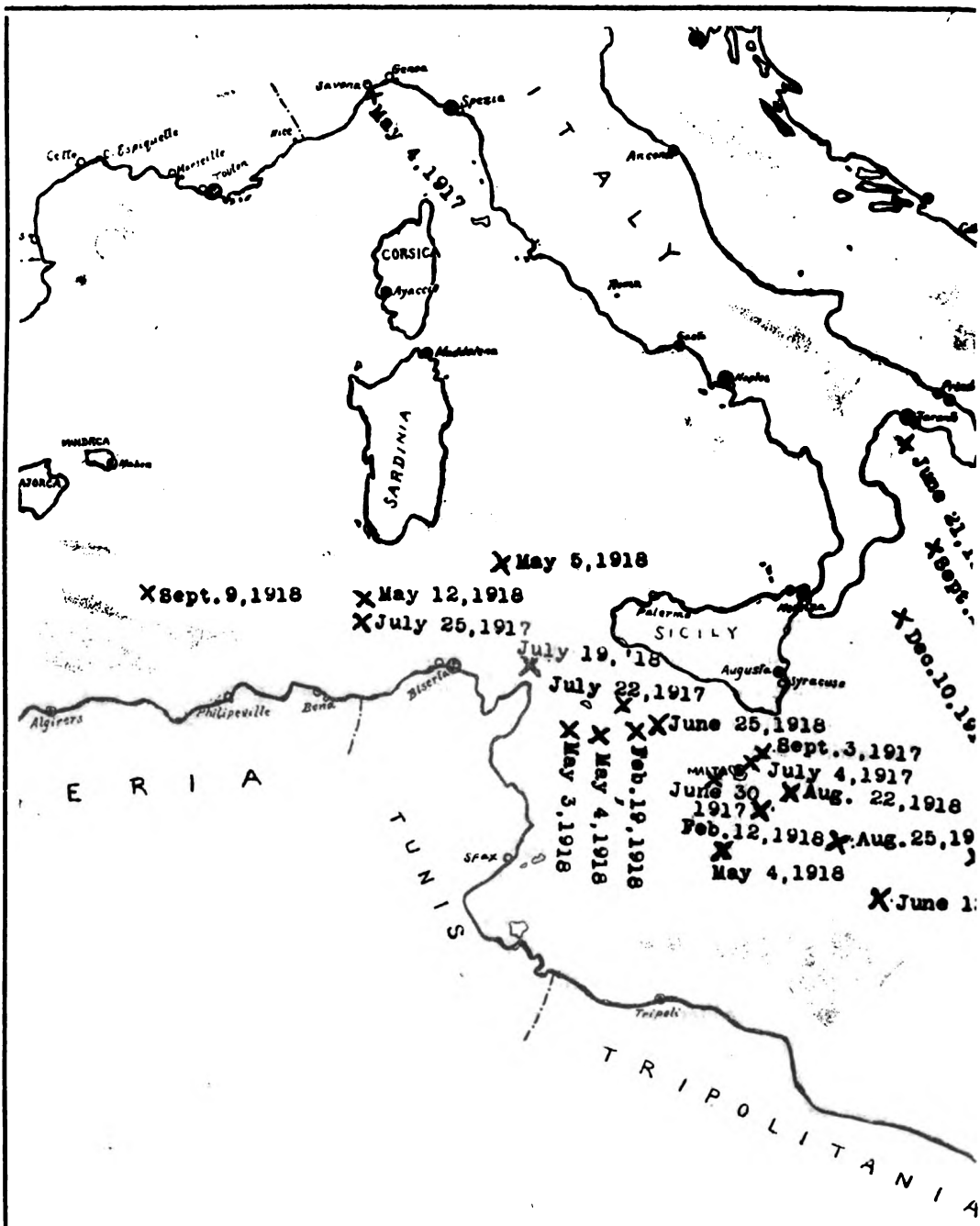


Carte de la méditerranée. Les croix indiquent les endroits où des sous-marins ennemis furent attaqués par la flotte Japonaise

sleep or rest for any one. The duty of steering in constant zig-zag movement and keeping all the ships in line and the guard boats in proper position was work which only a genius could carry out perfectly. Even on a calm safe sea and good weather it is a very difficult matter, but in rough seas it is indescribably difficult. If case of sudden attack by the enemy submarines and some of

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MAP OF MEDITERRANEAN: CROSSES SHOWS WHERE JAPANESE FLEET ATTACKED ENEMY SUBMARINE

the destroyers should be sunk or put out of action the responsibility on the others greatly increased, as they had not only to take up the fight but rescue those being lost and so on, while protecting the transports at the same time. In the Mediterranean the sea is very rough in winter, the three S waves, steep, sharp and severe, being common, and very dangerous to small craft like torpedo

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boats. Thus while the submarines could navigate as they liked the torpedo boats were restricted by their duties to the transports, and could not face the high waves as discretion would otherwise have directed. Many of our boats were thus damaged or wholly demolished by the disastrous storms, while sailors were often washed overboard. Our boats could not stay longer in port than to take on fuel and munitions. If we got one night's complete rest we considered ourselves very lucky, as we could take off our clothes for a few hours; but the following day we had to go on duty again. Often we had not even time to dry our clothes, and often we could not take time even for proper repair of our hulls if they were not dangerously damaged. One ship was in action 25 days out of a month and traveled 6,000 knots.

The loss of a transport is something better imagined than described, especially for the destroyer flotilla which has to recue the men from the water and soon finds itself crowded beyond standing room with wet and cold soldiers, making confusion worse confounded. The torpedo destroyer is itself not wide enough on deck to hold its own crew, to say nothing of the small space for supplies and munitions. What must be the state when the little craft finds itself crowded with rescued men? Sometimes the number rescued was several times larger than the boat's own crew. If the base of operations is distant and the weather cold or stormy the difficulties are much increased. As many of those rescued are in need of clothing the crew have to to give out their own supplies to the needy men saved from the sea and this is hard on the crew themselves. A Japanese crew does not have an board much foreign food; and as those resued from the sea are all foreigners the supply of meat and vegetables is soon exhausted as well as the medicines on hand. The duty of providing accomodations for officers of rank is especially great, and for ladies rescued the difficulty of accomodation is still greater. The officers and crew are thus thrust out of their quarters and their hardships are greatly increased.

During the period of our naval patrol in the Mediterranean Sea the number of Allied ships convoyed by us was 788, including 21 British warships, and 623 trausports; and for France 100 transports; other nationalities 26 transports, the total number of the troops thus convoyed being some 700,000 men, during which the number of enemy submarines confronted was 34. Our own losses in ships and men were recounted in a previous article in this magazine.

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# TALES OF OLD JAPAN

## I

THE present Imperial Palace in Tokyo, known as the Chiyoda Castle, was founded by the famous hero and poet, Ota Dokan, who lived in the 15-th century. On his arrival at Kyoto, the old capital, in the year 1470, the celebrated Shogun Yoshimasa wanted to tender him a great banquet. At that time the Yoshimasa kept a pet monkey who was very fond of his master and correspondingly jealous of all strangers, so that great care had to be exercised when visitors appeared. The great man was very pleased with the devotion of the creature to him, and used to say that he would find it convenient thus to protect himself from aggressive *daimyo*. Having heard of the antics of the monkey Ota Dokan thought he would like to make its acquaintance before visiting its master; and so he bribed the monkey's keeper to bring it to his hotel. Ota Dokan had the monkey tethered to a tree in the garden, and then, putting on the states robes he intended to wear on the occasion of the banquet, he passed before the monkey to accustom the creature to his appearance.

The monkey at once sprang at the stranger, as usual; but this time its master was not there to check it as it expected, and when it found the circumstances different the monkey did not know what to do. As soon as it sprang at Ota Dokan the keeper whipped it, and continued to punish it thus every time it showed signs of attempting to attack the stranger. Then the monkey was taken back to its home at the Yoshimasa mansion.

The day of the banquet finally arrived. Shogun Yoshimasa had the monkey tethered by the big pine tree as usual, so as to have the fund of frightening Ota Dokan as he did the *daimyos*. Dokan at last came to the great gate and entered; but as he passed along the pathway by the big pine tree the monkey did not sprang at him in the way its master was accustomed to see it do in the case of strangers. The creature, hearing the approach of some one, assumed an attitude of caution, as usual, and was about to sprang when it could sight of the robes and the countenance of the man it had been whipped for attacking; and, as he passed by, the monkey simply made a profound obeisance, as it had been taught

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to do in the case of friends and acquaintances. To this Dokan solemnly responded and then passed along to the entrance of the mansion as if he had been there often before. The episode greatly impressed Yoshimasa, and on account of it he ever afterwards regarded Ota Dokan as a no common warrior.

II

One of the most distinguished officers under the great Taiko Hideyoshi was Kato Kiyomasa, whose exploits are household tales throughout Japan. This great man was more than a mere soldier; he spent the latter days of his interesting life in studying the writings of the sages and pondering over the significance of life. The volume containing the analects of Confucius was his constant companion, and its page borders were covered with his comments and annotations. He too kept a monkey, after the fashion of the time, and the creature used to follow him about and carefully observe his habits even in his meditations. The monkey in time acquired most of its master's habits, and when he arose from his studies or was called away for a moment, leaving the book open on his desk, the monkey would take his place and begin to underline words and phrases here and there all over the analects of the Chinese sage, using the same brush and red ink which Kiyomasa used. This rendered the marks made by the master of little use, since he had to search for his own marks among those made by the monkey, and so his labour came to nothing. But the great man never got angry with the monkey, but only remarked: "And so you want to study the philosophy of the sage of China too, do you?

III

One of the distinguished painters of animal studies in the old days was Mori Sosen, whose art in this respect was regarded as equal to that of Maruyama Ôkyo. He was more especially skilled in the drawing of monkeys; in fact he has never been excelled in the depiction of lifelike simians. It was said of him that he was the only painter that show the very soul of a monkey in its portrait. In order to perfect himself further in this aspect of art he often betook himself to the recesses of the mountains inhabited by monkeys to paint from natural observation. He used even to cultivate friendship with the simians in order to know their spirit and temperment, as well as their appearance. It is obvious from his pictures of monkeys that he put his experiments with the creatures to good, practical use in his art.

IV

Another monkey tale is told of Kagekatsu, adopted son of Uyesugi Kensin, the famous warrior who fought with Takeda Shingen in Kai during the age of the civil wars. This soldier kept a pet monkey that could imitate his master so perfectly as to bow or cough exactly like him in such a way as to provoke laughter even from a stone. When Kagekatsu was out of humour and sat desponding on the veranda, the monkey would steal his soldier's helmet and mount a tree in front of him, where he would

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cough and bow just like his master until the despondent warrior would burst out in roars of laughter, and regain his drooping spirits.

V

By the end of the period of civil war, when the shogunate was assumed by the Tokugawa family, the art of selfdefence was greatly developed, and skill in the use of the spear, archery & horse-riding, and indeed all military arts, was much appreciated and cultivated. Schools were established for the promotion of every kind of military art. These schools differed in their claims to patronage and were known as the Yagiu, the Shinkagé and Itto schools. Among the more famous teachers of fencing at that time was Miyamoto Musashi of Higo, who invented a method of attack with two swords, one in each hand, and his school was known as the Nitoryu. This man was a painter of no mean skill also. He had a family vendetta and went travelling over the country in search of an enemy on whom the had to take vengeance. One day as he was passing along a mountain path he met a peasant who caught an old monkey with young. He purchased it for a trifle and then set it free, for the sake of pity. Near the place was a village where lived another teacher of fencing; and as it was the custom in those days when two fencers met, to challenge each other to a bout, Miyamoto proposed that they cross swords together. But the rival was a more cunning fellow than Miyamoto had supposed, and, some time before the bout was to begin, they ate and drank together when Miyamoto was persuaded to take a little too much saké. Seeing that he was overcome with wine the fencer tied Miyamoto to a tree and went off and left him. When Miyamoto came to himself he was terribly humiliated, especially if any one should hear of what had happened and regard him as having been defeated. The story goes that in the evening some monkeys came along and set the prisoner free. As they were trying to open the rope that bound him, Miyamoto supposed that they intended to attack him in revenge for the cruel treatment that monkeys usually received from human beings. No less than twenty-three big monkeys were surrounding him. But they dld not molest him after the rope was severed; and then he noticed among them the old monkey which he had purchased and set free some time before. It may be nothing more than a story to the effect that one good turn deserves another; but it is remarkable as showing faith even in the kindness of monkeys.

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# MONTHLY RECORD OF EVENTS

## (OCTOBER 25 to NOVEMBER 25)

Oct. 27.—His Majesty the Emperor attended a meeting of the Privy Council to deliberate on the ratification of the Treaty of Peace, when the Imperial sanction was given to the Treaty.

Oct. 28.—The first Imperial Naval Review since tne conclusion of the war was carried out off Yokohama, His Majesty inspecting the hundreds of warships assembled for the occasion.

Owing to the high cost of living the Department of Education gave permission to students of Middle schools to wear native dress instead of foreign school uniform.

Oct. 29.—The officials of the Kawasaki Dock Yard distributed the sum of 3,750,000 *yen* among its employees to tide over the high cost of living.

Oct. 30.—At 11 a.m. a telegram was sent to Paris announcing Japan's ratification of thc Treaty of Peace.

Oct. 31.—This being the Imperial birthday a grand ball was given by the Foreign Minister to which many high personages were invited.

Nov. 1.—The famous priest, Soen Shaku, of the Zen sect, passed away at Kamakura.

Nov. 2.—A bronze statue of the late Prince Oyama, one time Field Marshal of the Imperial Army, was unveiled at the War Office grounds.

Nov. 3.—Count Terauchi, one time Prime Minister and Governor-General of Korea, passed away at his residence in Oiso.

Nov. 9.—The giant battleship Nagato, 33,800 tons, was launched at the Kuré Navy Yard.

His Majesty the Emperor left Tokyo to attend the army maneuvers near Kobe, stopping at the Nagoya palace on the way.

The War Office announded that henceforth service with the colors would be only two years, except in the case of cavalry.

Nov. 12.—The Kenseikai party held a meeting in Tokyo and passed a want-of-confidence resolution against the Government of the day.

Nov. 15.—At the conclusion of the grand military maneuvers His Majesty gave a banquet to the officers of the army at Osaka.

Nov. 16.—His Majesty, while attending the grand military maneuvers, paid a visit to the mausoleum of his Imperial father at Momoyama.

Nov. 19.—A grand banquet was given by the Japan-American Association at the Tokyo Bankers' Club, when Viscount Ishii, and other distinguished persons, made speeches on the international situation.

Nov. 20.—The regulations against enemy trading were abolished.

Dr. Kubara president of Kyoto University, passed away.

Nov. 21.—The Imperial Chrysanthemum Party was held at the Akasaka Palace grounds.

It was decided by the Tokyo municipal authorities to carry but a system of harbour reconstruction for the city; also to permit the construction ofan underground railway for the metropolis.

Nov. 22.—On learning that the American Senate would not ratify the Treaty of Peace the Department of Foreign Affairs held a conference in regard to the matter.

Nov. 24.—The Imperial University won the annual boat race on the Sumida river.

The question of despatching reinforcements to Siberia was discussed by the cabinet council and it was decided not to do so.

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GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS MAKE NEW YEAR CALLS AT THE IMPERIAL PALACE
Fonctionnaires civils et officiers militaires se rendent au palais impérial pour souhaiter le nouvel an

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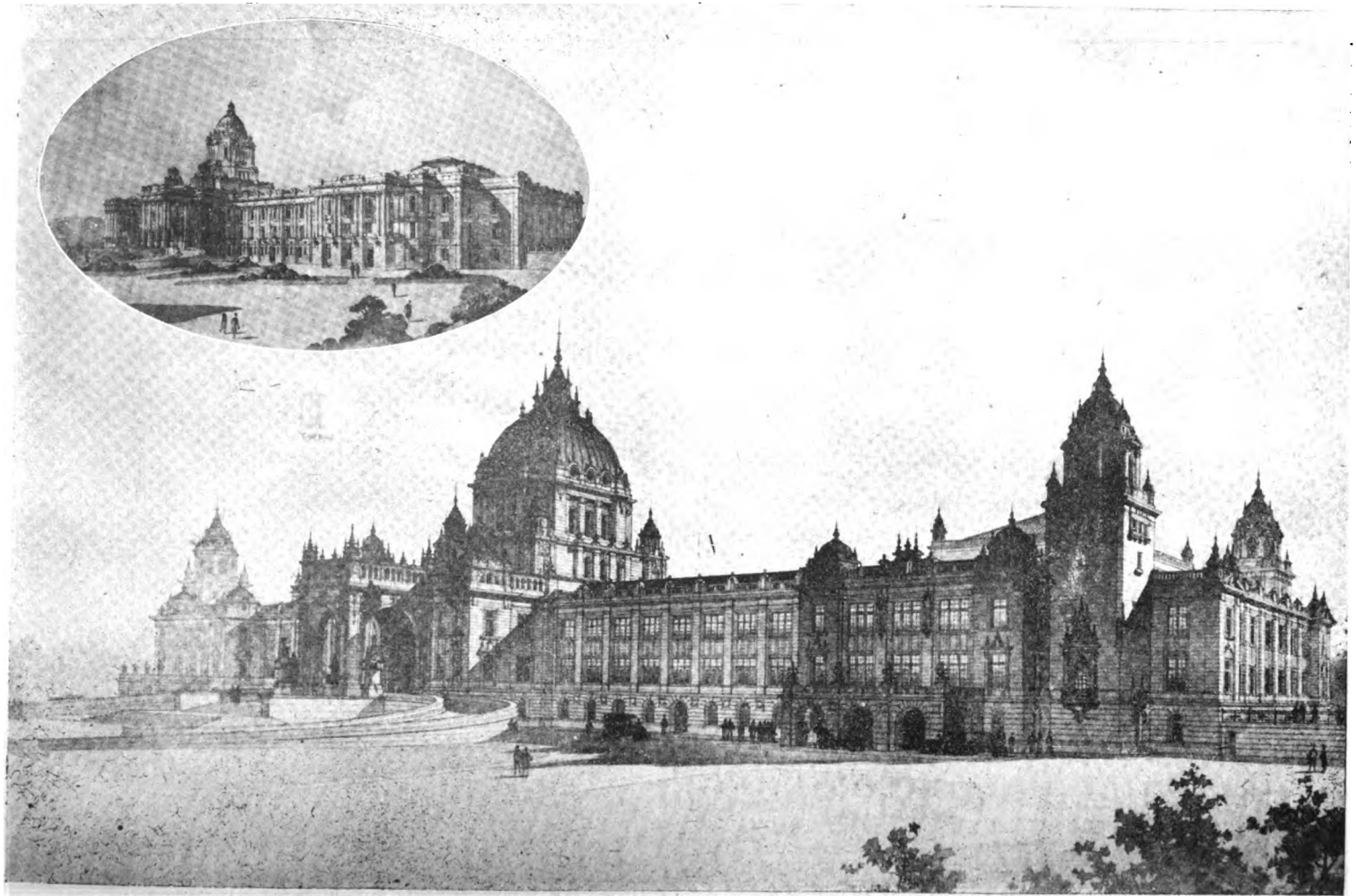

FIRST PRIZE PLAN FOR NEW IMPERIAL DIET BUILDINGS BY F. WATANABE. SECOND PRIZE PLAN ABOVE

Le plan du nouvel edifice du Parlement imperial du Japon, premier prix. En haut, second prix

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ADMIRAL GLEAVES ARRIVES IN TOKYO

Arrivée de M. Gleaves, amiral américain, à Tokio

MADEMOISELLE BAPST, DAUGHTER OF FRENCH AMBASSADOR, ACTS AS HOSTESS AT CHARITY BAZAAR

Mademoiselle Bapst, fille de l'ambassadeur de France, cheville ouvrière de la vente de Charité

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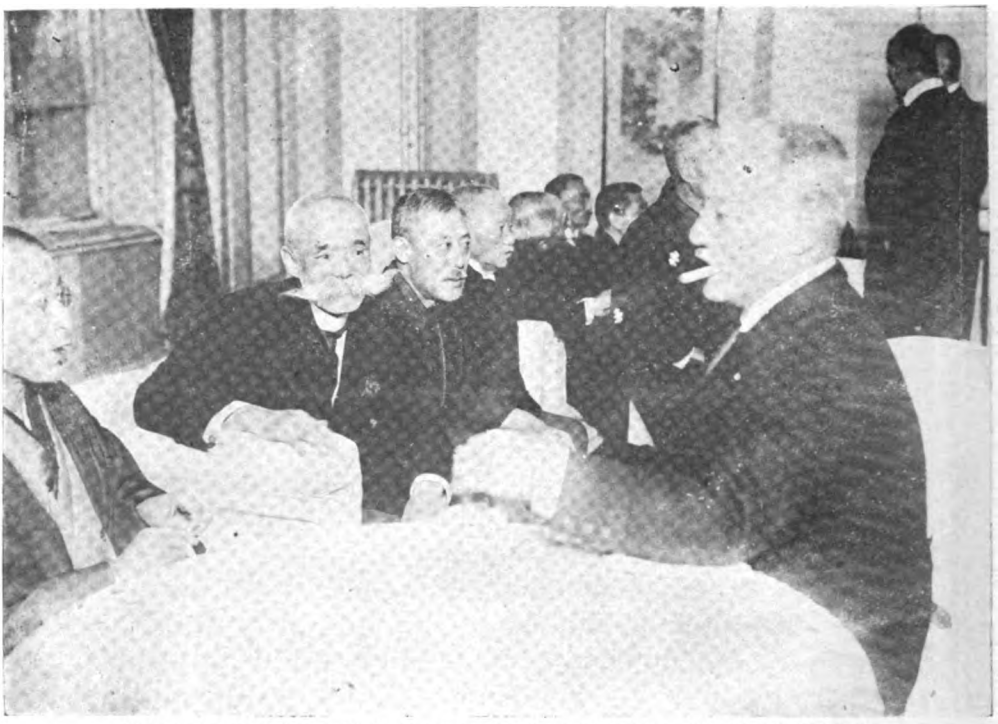

JAPAN PARIS ASSOCIATION BANQUET AT TOKYO STATION HOTEL
Un banquet des membres de l'Association " Paris " à l'Hotel de la gare de Tokio

PAGEANT AT TOKYO Y.W.C.A. HALL
Une représentation théâtrale à la salle de l'Union chratieune de Jeunes à Tokio

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# CURRENT JAPANESE THOUGHT

By Dr. J. INGRAM BRYAN

**American Fleet**

The people of Japan have been mach impressed by the fact that the American Pacific fleet has been increased beyond all precedent. Just what cause has produced this result is not clear; but evidently American regards the situation as demanding a greater fleet on the Pacific. The British fleet is also to be increased on the Pacific, so that it looks to the Japanese as if a new policy were being introduced on the part of the two countries. Happily for Japan the increased fleets represent the defences of friendly nations and she can take no umbrage, only it involves repletion of Japan's own naval forces unless Japan is content to have other nations protect her interests, which is unlikely. The American flagship, *South Dakota*, has recently been on a friendly visit to Japan, representing the American Pacific squardon, and Admiral Gleaves has been received in the most cordial manner by His Majesty the Emperor and all the higher officials of the Goveanment; while every effort was made to give the officers and men of the flagship a very happy experience of their first visit to Japan. The navies of Japan and the United States have coöperated very successfully during the war in Europe, for the guardianship of the Pacific; and it is the earnest hope of all in this country that they will long continue thus to act harmoniously together for the patool of great ocean that joins rather than divides their two countries.

**China**

The anti-Japanese agitation in China, led mostly by the student class, goes on apace and may lead to international complications if persisted in too long and too aggressively. The incident at Fuchow is only one of many that tend to erupt in various places. It is unfortunate that foreigners should be suspected of inciting the young Chinese to greater aversion to Japan and Japanese goods, though we do not suppose that much encouragement is needed to keep the agitation going. China seems to have her mind made up that Japan entertains sinister motives in dealing with that country. Such a situation is most unfortunate; and we trust that so far as Japan is concerned every effort will be made to disipate the false impression as to the motives of this country. The action of the American Senate in standing out so strenuously for what it regarded as the rights of China appears to be turning the heads of many Chinese and enabling them to fancy that they can insult the Japanese as they like and no harm can come of it. If America feels

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free to stand up for the rights of China perhaps it would be advisable for her to feel free also to advise young China not to misconstrue this form of friendship for incitement to outlawry and attacks on Japanese. Certainly America does not approve of this conduct on the part of young China. Would it not be well for America to remind China that she is dishonouring her friends by such behaviour?

**Siberia**

The situation in Siberia has grown exceedingly interesting of late. Now that the Omsk Government has been obliged to retreat before the Bolsheviks and the latter are on their way eastward it remains to be seen whether Japan will be content to allow them a free hand. No doubt i they agree to make peace and to establish a stable government in the East Japan will not molest them, but she is not likely to allow them to interfere along the borders of Manchuria, Korea and Mongolia in any way. It is quite likely that Russia will sooner or later find herself divided into two sections, which will be known as European Russia and Siberia. At least it looks that way at present, though the Reds may succeed ultimately in uniting all Russia. But it is not probable that the Cossack forces in Siberia will be ready to submit to the Soviets unless they are given a share in the Government, and this would prove impracticable unless Russia were divided. The public will thus view the development of events in Siberia during the next few months with the utmost interest.

**Social Conditions**

Owing to the abnormal inflation of currency and the degree to which profiteering goes on, prices of necessities in Japan were never higher than at present, and social disaffection is growing apace. Wages have been increased considerably but not to an extent that can appreciably relieve the distress in labour circles, and consequently there is an increasing disposition to strikes, industry being seriously affected by these eruptions during the past few months. Recently, for the first time in its history, Japan had to call out the troops to control the unruly behaviour of strikers at mines. The Government has been blamed for not doing something to deflate the currency and exercise a greater control over prices. The currency is now some three times the volume it was before the war, while prices are up in about the same proportion, which causes the public to suspect some connection between the two facts of the situation. But the authorities maintain that these phenomena mark the economic situation all over the world and are not, therefore, peculiar to Japan. A considerable degree of amelioration might be brought about if the public were willing to change its food and eat more wheat, barley, and oatmeal in place of rice; but the people are very prejudiced against such changes, regarding any other food than rice, as an indignity not to be suffered save in the last resort. In spite of the hard times there is an abounding extravagance and luxury among those classes that are making money out the circumstances, especially the shipping and commercial companies as well as the cotton spinners, all of whom are paying enormous dividends. The Government has remitted the duty on cotton, eggs and beans as well as beef for one year to reduce the prices of these commodities, but it is not

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likely to appreciably affect the situation, so far as the high cost of living is concerned.

**Exchange of Students**

France and the United States have entered upon a plan of exchanging female students that is worthy of commendation. A certain number of girls go to France from America each year to attend French schools and colleges, and a similar number proceed from France to American educationa institutions. Last year the number so exchanging was twenty, and the same number will go to either country this year. In this way the study of modern language will be promoted and the two countries will reap the benefit of each others' education. The effect will be a lessening of racial prejudice and an opening of the national eye to the good points in manners, customs and the general civilization of other nations. This broadening of the mind is one of the great needs of both French and American provincialism; and all countries of the world stand as fully in want of it. Of course the girls selected for this opportunity have to prove their knowledge of the language of the country they are going to, before being accepted. This is an encouragement to American girls to study French and to French girls to study English in a practical manner. Why could not the same custom be introduced between America and Japan? Many male Japanese students already go to study in America, but few if any Americans return the compliment excelt missionasies. The same is true of female students.

**Baron Kondo's Experience**

On his return from a long sojourn in Europe and America, Baron Kondo, President of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, avers that, in all his experiences in the United States, he met with the most cordial treatment, and he believes that America is at heart quite friendly to Japan. We are indeed very glad to have this assurance from so distinguished an authority; for the scenes recently enacted in the American Senate had done much to leave on the public mind in Japan an unfortunate impression to the contrary. Baron Kondo thinks that the educated classes in the United States entertain no prejudice against Japan, and that differences of opinion between the two countries can be adjusted on a basis of real friendship rather than by mere empty diplomatic utterances. Agreed; but when there is no proper move toward either practical friendship or diplomacy, so far as the public can observe, what is to be the result? What is wanted is not paid propaganda, but a frank and fearless discussion of facts, without attempts to disguise difficulties on either side. Japan and America desire something more real and permanent than a paper friendship; and Baron Kondo believes that this is what the best Americans want too.

**Japan and America**

In the review of relations between Japan and America that goes on in the press and on the platform we hear a great deal about the danger of misunderstanding. We wish that in regard to some of the more important differences of opinion that exist between the two countries, it could truthfully be said that it was only misunderstanding. In regard to China, for instance, there is apparently no real misunderstanding. Japan claims certain special interests in that country by virtue of certain other facts, such as proximity and her

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sacrifices to save China from Russia and from Germany; and America, or at least many Americans, deny the reality of, or the right to, such interests on the part of Japan, although the Ishii-Lansing Agreement made a special point of recognizing such interests. Now if Japan claims right and interests in China, and produces treaties and agreements showing China's official recognition of them, as well as the recognition of the Peace Treaty ratified by England, France, Italy and Japan herself, and America refuses to recognize these rights and interests, there is no misunderstanding at all. The fact simply remains that America and Japan do not agree as to what relations Japan should bear toward China and as to what rights and interests Japan has in China. If they do not agree there can be no harm is saying so; but do not let them go on calling it a misunderstanding, when it is a clear case of divergent opinion.

**A Strange Suggestion**

We have had quite a number of visitors during the last few months from the United States, many of them persons of some distinction in their own country; and at the various banquets that it is Japan custom to tender such guests, they have made specches brim-full of what is snpposed to be good advice on how to promote better relations between Japan and America. Some of this advice Japan can understand and some of it she cannot understand. Among the latter sort of advice may be included that of General Sherill, who, at a recent banquet, advised that, as Japan had a Gentlemen's Agreement with America she ahould now conclude a "Ladies' Agreement" whereby Japanese women should be prevented from going over to marry Japanese husbands in the United States. The suggestion that the Japanese residing in America should not have the right to have wives of their own race, seems to us rather inhuman, not to say unfair. Why should a Japanese living in America not be entitled to have his wife as much as an American living in Japan? The idea that Japanese in America should not import wives is doubtless born of the desire to prevent any increase of the Japanese population in America by birth. But to allow the Japanese to be in America and then take exception to their having children seems to us the limit of irrationality and unfairness. The complaint has been made that the Japanese in America do not settle down and become American citizens; and now we have the complaint that that is just what they do, marrying Japanese women and making homes for themselves, like decent people.

**Anti-Japanese Agitation**

Agitation in California over alleged increase of Japanese immigration to that state seems quite uncalled for in view of the facts. Most of the Japanese settlers entering California went into the country during the forty years ending 1910, when the number of immigrants totaled 85,985. The number of immigrants of other nationalities entering the State during the same forty years was as many as 22,846,000, with which the number from Japan is as nothing. Nor are all the Japanese in America in California, for according to the United States census of 1910 only 55,000 of the Japanese were in California out of a total Japanese population of 85,895 in the whole country and of these some 21 per cent were students. A large percentage of the Japanese recently entering the

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United State are women, brought over to marry Japanese husbands in America. This proves that the tendency of the Japanese in America is to marry and make a home. Over 90 per cent of the Japanese admitted into the United States are between the ages of 14 and 44, the period of greatest efficiency, while the commissioner of immigration reports that the Japanese rank third among immigrants carrying with them the largest amount of money. More tnan 50 per cent of the Japanese in America are engaged in agriculture; and in such agrarian industries as berries, sugar beets, nursery products and grapes the Japanese do most of the labour. More than 90 per cent of the market graden labour of California is done by Japanese. This is necessary work for which white labour is unavailable or inefficient. The Japanese labourer usually gets as much wages as other labourers. Some 98 per cent of the Japanese entering the United States can read and write their own language, and 55 per cent of them can speak English after being five years in the country. The above statistics are for 1910. In the last nine years the Japanese population in America has increased largely by the presence of business men, but the increase of Japanese in California has been negligible, or in reality a decrease, the statistics for 1917 being only 81,680 in all, of which more than 57,000 were males. In the year 1916, for example, the number of Japanese entering the United States was 8,736, of which 3,283 were women, most of whom were brides for Japanese husbands in California, and a considerable number of the rest were business men and students who did not remain permanently in America. We do not see how the Gentlemen's Agreement could be more faithfully fulfilled on Japan's part, than has been done.

**Tairoido**

We have received a new volume entitled TAIREIDO explaining a unique system of thought and life revealed to the author Mr. Morihei Tanaka. This gentleman has for some time been attracting wide attention in Japan and the Far East as the Expounder of Taireido, which now has quite a large number of disciples. The new system of thought is certainly one of the remarkable guesses as the Riddle of the Universe that we have come across in recent years. To Mr. Tanaka and his followers, however, it is no guess but a revelation of the fundamental truths of existence. It would, of course, he quite impossible in the space at our disposal to give any adequate account of this wonderful system of thought as laid down in the volume under review. Mr. Tanaka has himself contributed various articles to our pages with reference to the subject, and his remarks have elicited wide interest judging by the number of inquiries receiued. It will be sufficient at this time merely to say that the founder of TAIREIDO claims to have had revealed to him, after a long period of bodily disciplins, the secret of all existence. It was a revelation from the Great Spirit who is the author of all things. From this experience the author of Taireido that the essence of things is neither material nor spiritual but a fusion of these; and that man, the highest product of this fusion, has within himself the power of the Spirit to regulate his body, his soul, as well as human society and civilization in harmony with the law of the universe, without which evil must prevail. Once man has acquired the

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secret of this inherent power, by instruction in Taireido, he can regulate his physical, mental and moral functions in accordance with the laws of the universe, or in harmony with TRUTH, as Mr. Tanaka says; so that all irregularity and disease are eliminated from mankind. Man can wield this divine power both for himself and for others. By the same power all creation has been produced; and by this power man can bring his life into unity with creation. The power can be exercised eveywhere at all times, unlimited by distance or circumstance. The author claims that this new system of thought and life supercedes all the spiritual and intellectual knowledge so far acquired by mankind. Needless to say such teaching has created no small interest in Japan, where Mr. Tanaka has attracted much attention during the past few years; and considerable numbers of people are not only displaying keen interinterest in it but are placing themselves under the instruction of the author fo Taireido, includlng all classes from the highest to the lowest. Some quite wonderful results of the effect on individuals have been recorded, and the book itself gives numerous examples, as well as explaining lucidly the general principles of the system. This volume, thus compiled out of the author's marvellous experience, is intended for students of Taireido living to far from the author to come personally under his instruction. Particulars as to the volume, or as to Taireido, itself, may be had by applying to the office of the Japan Magazine.

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